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CONFIDENTIAL.

(7770.)

201

F.O.
424

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

REVISION OF THE COMMERCIAL TREATIES

BETWEEN

GREAT BRITAIN AND TURKEY.

[In continuation of Confidential Paper No. 7051.]

201

1900.

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ERRATA.

Page 43.—The second foot-note should be "Not printed," instead of "No. 46."
Page 52.—The foot-note should be "No 71," not "No. 75."

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CONFIDENTIAL.

Further Correspondence respecting the Revision of the Commercial Treaties between Great Britain and Turkey.

[In continuation of Confidential Paper No. 7051.]

No. 1.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received February* 5.)

(No. 13. Commercial. Confidential.)

Constantinople, February 1, 1900.

My Lord,

IT was announced in the newspapers some time ago that a Commission was sitting at the Porte to consider the question of the resumption of negotiations for new Commercial Treaties with the Powers except Germany, which signed a Treaty with Turkey in the year 1891.

The Sublime Porte has commenced operations with France, and at an Ambassadors' meeting held on the 25th ultimo to discuss certain matters connected with Customs irregularities, M. Constans incidentally informed his colleagues that an arrangement between his Government and that of Turkey was within sight. From his Excellency's remarks on this occasion and from such information as has reached me since, I gather that the French Embassy are negotiating on the basis of a Tariff which was negotiated and signed by M. Gazay, the French Consul-General, on the 7th April, 1887. This Tariff is presumably identical in its main features with the one to which Mr. Wrench appended his signature on behalf of England on the 9th July, 1885, and which was to form an integral part of a new Anglo-Turkish Commercial Treaty.

Your Lordship is aware that our negotiations were interrupted in the year 1894 owing to disagreement with the Ottoman Delegates on several essential points, such as those relating to certain articles, amounting apparently to a Turkish claim to be allowed to impose new charges, whether in the form of municipal taxes, octroi, or dues on quays and similar public works, without previous agreement with the foreign Missions concerned.

The French draft Treaty of Commerce and Tariff failed about the same time to obtain the sanction of the French Government, and I understand that the negotiation has been taken up at the point which it had then reached.

M. Constans is proceeding to Paris to-day, and it is expected that he will shortly return with instructions which will enable him to sign the new Treaty. I am not yet aware of the details of his negotiation, but I have some reason to think that, as regards the octroi question, on which France was formerly quite opposed to the Turkish view, he may be satisfied with an Article on the lines of the one embodied in the German Treaty, which merely stipulates for the minimum dues imposed on the goods of any other country, and that, as regards monopolies, France will probably be able to come to terms with Turkey in regard to monopolies in petroleum, alcohol, cigarette-paper, playing-cards, and matches.

I hope shortly to be in possession of more precise details, but I do not wish

to delay informing your Lordship of the fact that the Turkish Government has reopened negotiations with the French Embassy.

There is reason to anticipate that they are likely to approach the Italian Embassy next, and it seems as if they were taking the line of least resistance in beginning with the French and postponing their negotiation with us. I have received no communication of any kind as yet from the Porte on the subject. When, however, it comes to our turn, it will be necessary to consider several important points: (1) Will the Tariff elaborated in 1885, but which was governed by the last Article in our draft Treaty, providing for revision every seven years, meet the present requirements of British trade with Turkey? (2) Do Her Majesty's Government adhere to the views in regard to monopolies laid down in your Lordship's Commercial despatch No. 38 of the 17th June, 1896, and would those views preclude our acceptance of the Turkish monopolies on cigarette-paper and petroleum, mentioned in Article XVIII of our draft Commercial Treaty, and of the other monopolies to which I have stated above that France is likely to agree? (3) Is any compromise possible or desirable in regard to the points on which our previous negotiation fell through? These and other questions will have to be carefully studied, and in due course I shall venture to apply for instructions in regard to them.

Meanwhile, I shall not fail to keep your Lordship informed of what passes here, so far as I can ascertain it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

No. 2.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 9. Commercial.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 16, 1900.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch No. 13, Commercial, of the 1st instant, marked Confidential, in which you report that negotiations for a new Commercial Treaty between France and Turkey have been resumed.

As regards the question of opening negotiations for a Commercial Treaty between the United Kingdom and Turkey, I have to state that before any definite instructions can be given on this subject it would be desirable to have a full Memorandum prepared by the Commercial Attaché to Her Majesty's Embassy at Constantinople setting forth the points at issue, with general observations and suggestions as to the best course to pursue under present circumstances.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 3.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received March* 12.)

(No. 27. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, March* 8, 1900.

HAVING heard it stated that the Ottoman Government were about to raise the import duties to 11 per cent., I instructed Mr. Block to make inquiries of the Minister for Foreign Affairs as to the truth of the report.

Tewfik Pasha replied that such an increase had been proposed by the Council of Ministers, but had not yet received the Imperial sanction. Mr. Block stated that Her Majesty's Government would not be likely to assent to the measure in question while British capital embarked in mining enterprise was subjected to vexatious restrictions, and that a proposal such as that under consideration at the Porte for the exclusion of foreigners from acquiring Mining Concessions in Turkey would be fatal to the favourable consideration of any modification of existing duties.

* Copy to Board of Trade, March 19, 1900.

I understand that the present proposal is an alternative to the continuation of the commercial negotiations (see my despatch No. 13 of the 1st February), the conclusion of which would have led to the putting in force of the unified specified Tariff elaborated in 1886. As these negotiations have hitherto hung fire, and there seems little prospect of their leading to any definite result in the immediate future, the Porte proposes to raise the import duties by 3 per cent. in order to meet the ever increasing wants of the Treasury.

It is stated in the "Ikdam" of yesterday that an Imperial Iradé has been issued sanctioning this increase. The Porte will no doubt communicate the decision now come to to the Powers, without whose consent no modification of the existing 8 per cent. duty can be made, and it will then have to be borne in mind that when Her Majesty's Government accepted a specific Tariff on a higher scale, the Porte engaged to carry out certain reforms in the Administration of the customs and to make many other concessions for the benefit of trade, and that the same or somewhat similar obligations will be incumbent upon the Ottoman Government before the Powers agree to the proposed increase of 3 per cent. *ad valorem* duty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

No. 4.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received March* 15.)

(No. 28. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, March* 11, 1900.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 27, Commercial, of the 8th instant, on the subject of a proposal by the Ottoman Council of Ministers to raise the *ad valorem* import duties from 8 to 11 per cent., I have now the honour to transmit to your Lordship copy of a joint declaration of the six Ambassadors which was sent in yesterday to the Sublime Porte.

It refers to the announcement in the press that an Imperial Iradé had been issued to the above effect, and declares that no modification of existing customs arrangements by a unilateral act of the Ottoman Government, unsupported by a previous understanding with the Powers, can be accepted by the Governments concerned.

After receipt and perusal of the note presented by the Dragoman of the Austrian Embassy, acting as Delegate of the doyen of the Corps Diplomatique, the Minister for Foreign Affairs replied that he regretted the notice in the papers which had given rise to its presentation.

It was true, his Excellency said, that the Sublime Porte intended to propose to the foreign Representatives an increase of 3 per cent. on importations pending the conclusion of negotiations for new Commercial Treaties, but it went without saying that no such measure could be put into force without a previous understanding with the foreign Representatives.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

Inclosure in No. 4.

Joint Declaration addressed to the Sublime Porte, March 11, 1900.

IL vient d'être annoncé dans quelques journaux de Constantinople que par Iradé Impérial le droit de douane de 8 pour cent perçu sur les marchandises étrangères importées en Turquie est majoré de 3 pour cent et que la perception de cette surtaxe commencerait à partir du 1 (14) Mars prochain.

En présence de cet avis dont ils ne peuvent apprécier l'authenticité, les soussignés Ambassadeurs ont l'honneur de déclarer à la Sublime Porte qu'aucune

* Copy to Board of Trade, March 20, 1900.

modification au régime douanier actuellement en vigueur en Turquie ne saurait être admise par leurs Gouvernements du fait d'un acte unilatéral du Gouvernement Ottoman non sanctionné par une entente préalable avec les Puissances.

(Signé) CALICE.
PANSA.
MARSCHALL.
ZINOVIEW.
N. R. O'CONOR.
CONSTANS.

No. 5.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 19. Commercial.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, March* 20, 1900.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 28, Commercial, of the 11th instant, and to state that your Excellency's action in regard to the proposal by the Ottoman Council of Ministers to raise the *ad valorem* import duties from 8 per cent. to 11 per cent. is approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 6.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received March 30.)

(No. 35. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, March* 26, 1900.

IN my despatch No. 28, Commercial, of the 11th instant, I had the honour to report an assurance, which was given by the Ottoman Foreign Minister to the Dragoman of the Austrian Embassy, acting as Delegate of the doyen of the Ambassadors, to the effect that, although it was true that the Sublime Porte intended to propose to the foreign Representatives an addition of 3 per cent. to the Tariff on imports, it was, of course, understood that no such measure could be introduced without previous agreement with the Missions concerned.

The proposal in question was duly made by the note, of which I have now the honour to inclose a copy, but your Lorship will see that it goes much further than a mere request for the co-operation of this Embassy in the matter of an increase of the *ad valorem* duties from 8 per cent. to 11 per cent.

After reverting to previous Tariff and Treaty negotiations it declares in plain terms that the Sublime Porte has decided to apply the increased *ad valorem* duties from the 1st May of this year, and the new "Conventional Tariff" from the 1st March, 1901.

By the new Conventional Tariff the Foreign Minister means the Tariff conditionally signed by Mr. Wrench on the 9th July, 1885, and subsequently modified as a result of the Tariff negotiations with other Powers. It was transmitted to your Lordship in the latest form of which this Embassy has cognizance of it in Sir W. White's Confidential despatch No. 17, Commercial, of the 13th February, 1891, and it was then described as "the new Unified Turkish Tariff for the Empire."

I am invited at the same time to second the efforts of the Turkish Government in concluding the new Treaties, and to name a Delegate to that effect; but it is noticeable that the consent of the Powers to the contemplated new Tariffs is not asked for notwithstanding the Foreign Minister's assurances to which reference is made above.

This note has been addressed in identic terms to the other Embassies except that of Germany, which country concluded a Treaty of Commerce with Turkey in the year 1890, but I understand that they have likewise been officially informed that the *ad valorem* duties will be increased on the 1st May.

I am concerting with my colleagues as to the reply which should be returned to it, and I trust we shall agree to record in distinct terms the refusal of the Powers to acknowledge any new duties to which their consent has not been given.

On the merits of the proposed new imposts, I shall have the honour to address a further despatch to your Lordship when I have had a little more time to ascertain the views of my colleagues and those of the British Chamber of Commerce at Constantinople, which is studying the question and concerting with the Chambers of the other countries principally concerned.

I may add that in view of the probability that the Treaty negotiations will have to be resumed, I have telegraphed to request Mr. Weakley, Commercial Attaché to this Embassy, who is now at Jeddah, to return as soon as possible.

I have, &c
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

Inclosure in No. 6.

Tewfik Pasha to Sir N. O'Conor.

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Constantinople, le* 22 *Mars*, 1900.

J'Ai pris connaissance de la note collective que leurs Excellences les Représentants des Grandes Puissances avaient bien voulu m'adresser le 10 courant au sujet de la majoration des 3 pour cent des droits de douane.

Votre Excellence sait que les négociations entamées depuis l'année 1883 avec les Grandes Puissances pour la conclusion des nouveaux Traités de Commerce n'ont pu aboutir jusqu'ici, à l'exception de celles engagées avec l'Allemagne, à un résultat définitif, et elles exigent quelques temps encore pour que ces actes puissent être signés. Seuls les Tarifs Douaniers ont été arrêtés d'un commun accord et à la satisfaction générale et il en est résulté un Tarif Unique et Conventionnel pour lequel les Délégués signataires ont reconnu la nécessité d'une augmentation proportionnelle des droits de douane sur les différentes catégories des marchandises importées. Le Gouvernement Impérial en dénonçant les effets des Traités de Commerce conclus dans les années—1861-62, et mettant en application provisoire le régime de 8 pour cent *ad valorem*, était fondé à espérer que la signature des nouveaux actes ne tarderait pas et que le Trésor Impérial serait appelé à bénéficier au plus tôt des augmentations projetées. Les prévisions à ce sujet ne sont pas toutefois réalisées, soit par suite de certaines circonstances survenues dans cette intervalle qu'il serait inutile de rappeler, soit aussi de suite par la nécessité dans laquelle se sont trouvés certains Délégués d'attendre les instructions de leurs Gouvernements.

La Sublime Porte est convaincue que les Puissances voudront bien seconder les efforts du Gouvernement Impérial pour la confection des nouveaux Traités; mais comme la situation du Trésor Impérial nécessite l'adoption dès à présent d'une mesure spéciale destinée à créer des ressources permettant l'équilibre du Budget de l'Empire et l'oblige à rechercher ces ressources à l'instar des autres États dans les rentrées des Contributions Indirectes, elle a décidé :—

1. De mettre en vigueur le nouveau Tarif Conventionnel dès le 1er (14) Mars, 1901 (1317).

2. Et en attendant l'application de ce Tarif d'élever le taux actuel de 8 pour cent à 11 pour cent *ad valorem* à partir du 1er (14) Mai prochain.

La Sublime Porte désire en même temps que négociations en cours des nouveaux Traités soient poursuivies avec la plus grande célérité possible, et à cet effet, elle prie votre Excellence de munir des instructions voulues son Délégué au sein de la Commission instituée à cet effet dans mon Département.

Je ne doute pas que votre Excellence, dans son appréciation éclairée, voudra bien reconnaître que la mesure à laquelle le Gouvernement Impérial a dû s'arrêter est fondée en droit et en équité et la portera à la connaissance de ses nationaux intéressés.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) TEWFIK.

No. 7.

Memorandum by Mr. Brant respecting Negotiations with regard to the New Turkish Tariff between the British and Turkish Governments. 1885–97.

Mr. Wrench to Mr. Wyndham, March 31, 1885 (Confidential No. 5169).

IN March 1885 Mr. Wrench forwarded to Mr. Wyndham a Report on the new Turkish Tariff, with a copy of the new Tariff. This was provisionally accepted, as stated below.

To Sir W. White, No. 5, Commercial, January 9, 1891.

In January 1891 Lord Salisbury informed Sir W. White that he thonght it expedient to enter some *caveat* against any attempt to impose the new Ottoman Tariff upon British trade until the new Treaty between Great Britain and Turkey had been ratified.

Sir W. White, No. 8, Commercial, February 2, 1891. See also Sir W. White, No. 89, Commercial, July 18, 1885.

In reply to this, Sir W. White said that in Protocol No. 44 of the 9th July, 1885, by which we accepted conditionally the new Turkish Tariff, it is distinctly provided that for certain manufactured goods imported into Turkey from the United Kingdom a notice should be given three months before applying the new Tariff.

As no notice has been given, the Sublime Porte could not, without a violation of this engagement, attempt to put into force the new Tariff at so early a date. The date referred to being that on which it had been stated that, in accordance with the Turco-German Treaty, the new Tariff was to come into force.

Sir W. White, No. 36, Commercial, Secret, March 16, 1891.

In March 1891 Sir W. White reported that neither the German Treaty nor the Tariff had come into force on the 13th March, and that they were not likely to do so for another six months, owing to the absence of the necessary arrangements.

Sir W. White, No. 93, Commercial, June 29, 1891.

Sir W. White, No. 37, Commercial, March 16, 1891.

To Sir W. White, Telegraphic, March 23, 1891.

In June following Sir W. White presented a note to the Porte, the form of which had already been sanctioned, in which he said he was authorized to state that it was understood that until the conclusion of the new Treaty, which would also include the new Tariff accepted in 1885 under certain conditions with the modifications introduced into it after the Agreement arrived at with other Governments, no change would be made in the working of the system actually in force as regards the subjects, commerce, &c., of the United Kingdom without the consent of Her Majesty's Government, and unless this Tariff and the final modifications introduced into it were applied at the same time to every other nation.

To Sir C. Ford, No. 3, Commercial, January 18, 1893.

No further action at that time seems to have been taken with regard to the Tariff until 1893, when Sir C. Ford was instructed to co-operate with his colleagues in preventing any possible precipitate action on the part of the Porte in endeavouring to put their new Tariff in force.

Sir C. Ford, No. 52, Commercial, April 18, 1893.

In April of the same year the Ottoman Delegates attempted to bring pressure to bear by stating that if the negotiations were unduly prolonged it would be necessary to bring the new Tariff into force, but no preparations for doing this were then made, and Sir C. Ford regarded these statements as empty threats.

Sir C. Ford, No. 170, Commercial, Confidential, November 9, 1893.

These threats were again renewed in November.

Mr. Wrench, No. 3, January 22, 1894.

In January 1894 copies of the proposed Ottoman Tariff, as it stood in 1891, were sent to Constantinople for correction, but Mr. Wrench stated, in reply, that no modifications had been made in it since 1891.

Sir P. Currie, No. 42, Commercial, Confidential, May 30, 1894.

Sir P. Currie, writing on the 30th May, 1894, suggested that our commercial negotiations with the Porte should not be renewed until all the other Powers had negotiated. This suggestion was concurred in, and after July 1894 nothing further was done until 1896, when the Turkish Government proposed to renew the negotiations. In a Memorandum by Mr. Wrench, inclosed in Sir P. Currie's despatch reporting these proposals, it was stated that the new Tariff could not be enforced until the Turkish Government had erected suitable bonded warehouses, had trained their staff, and had provided the necessary instruments. At that time he stated that these preparations had not been made, and that several years would elapse before they could be completed.

To Sir P. Currie, No. 41, Commercial, June 7, 1894.

Sir P. Currie, No. 24, Commercial, April 18, 1896.

Sir P. Currie, No. 35, Commercial May 7, 1896.

In May 1896, at a meeting of the Ambassadors at Constantinople, Sir P. Currie said he was without instructions as to the resumption of negotiations, but that Her Majesty's Government would in any case require a revision of the Tariff drawn up eight years ago. It is presumed that by this Tariff he meant the new Turkish Tariff, to one form of which we had assented in 1885.

With regard to further negotiations respecting the Tariff to the end of 1898, nothing further appears in the Confidential Print to 1897 or in the Index of the Commercial Department of 1898.

R. W. BRANT.

Foreign Office, April 2, 1900.

No. 8.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received April* 3.)

(No. 37. Commercial.)

Constantinople, March 27, 1900.

My Lord,

IN continuation of my despatch No. 35, Commercial, of the 26th instant, transmitting copy of a note in which the Sublime Porte announced their decision to raise the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duties on imports to 11 per cent. *ad valorem* from the 1st May, 1900, and to apply the new Conventional Specific Tariff from the 1st March, 1901, I have the honour to forward herewith copy of a collective note which the six Ambassadors have addressed to the Ottoman Foreign Minister in reply.

This collective note renews the formal Declaration already jointly made on the 10th March to the effect that no Tariff charges can be introduced in Turkey without the concurrence of the Powers, and declares once more that they will not tolerate any augmentation of the existing duties by a unilateral act on the part of the Ottoman Government.

The Austro-Hungarian Dragoman who presented this note, as he had done the Joint Declaration, on behalf of the doyen, has reported that Tewfik Pasha received it with painful surprise. He had hoped, said his Excellency, that the Ambassadors would have recommended his proposals to their respective Governments, and that the Powers, taking into consideration the financial crisis through which Turkey is passing, would have come to her assistance by sanctioning the 3 per cent. surtax pending the application of the new Specific Tariff. The Sublime Porte had not intended to proceed in this matter unilaterally, as was proved by the contents of the note of the 22nd instant, otherwise it would not have informed the Ambassadors of its projects.

Passing over a remark of the Dragoman's that the note in question contained the words "The Sublime Porte has decided" to put the Tariffs in force, his Excellency added: "Turkey is being treated worse than Bulgaria. The latter, though not an independent State, has been granted an increase of 6 per cent. on her import Tariff, which she applies even to the commerce of the Suzerain State, although the latter has not consented to it. As to the Commercial Treaties, the Porte was justified in thinking that the negotiations, which are already far advanced, would be concluded by the date which it had fixed for the introduction of 'the new Specific Tariff.'"

So the matter stands at present.

If the proposal is renewed in a form in which it can be properly entertained, I shall have the honour to report further to your Lordship on its merits.

The question is receiving my careful consideration, and I am in communication with the British Chamber of Commerce at Constantinople on the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

Inclosure in No. 8.

Collective Note addressed to Sublime Porte.

LES Soussignés, Ambassadeurs d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie, de France, de Grande-Bretagne, d'Italie, et de Russie ont reçu les notes que son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères leur a fait l'honneur de leur adresser à la date du 22 courant.

Le Gouvernement Impérial, revenant sur la décision qu'il paraissait avoir prise de modifier en rien la perception des droits actuels des douanes sans une entente préalable avec les Puissances intéressées, leur fait connaître certaines mesures qu'il se proposerait d'adopter à l'égard des importations étrangères en Turquie à partir du 1er (14) Mai prochain.

En réponse à ces notes les Soussignés ont le devoir de confirmer à son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères la déclaration qu'ils ont eu l'honneur de lui faire le 10 Mars courant; ils la réitèrent formellement et lui affirment à nouveau que la Sublime Porte ne peut pas apporter une modification quelconque au régime douanier actuellement en vigueur en Turquie, sans qu'elle ait été sanctionnée par une entente préalable avec les Puissances.

Par conséquent, les Soussignés ont l'honneur de déclarer qu'ils ne toléreront pas la majoration des droits de douane en vigueur par un acte unilatéral du Gouvernement Impérial.

Les Soussignés présentent à son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères l'expression de leur très haute considération.

(Signé) CALICE
PANSA.
MARSCHALL.
ZINOVIEW.
N. R. O'CONOR.
CONSTANS.

Le 27 Mars, 1900.

No. 9.

Foreign Office to Board of Trade.

Sir, *Foreign Office, April 4*, 1900.

WITH reference to my letter of the 20th ultimo, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit herewith, to be laid before the Board of Trade, copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople relative to the proposal of the Porte to increase the import duties on goods entering the Ottoman Empire.*

Lord Salisbury will be glad to receive the observations of the Board upon this despatch, in connection with Sir N. O'Conor's despatch No. 28, Commercial, which formed the inclosure to my letter above referred to.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ST. JOHN BRODRICK.

No. 10.

Board of Trade to Foreign Office.†—(*Received April* 9.)

Sir, *Board of Trade, April 7*, 1900.

I AM directed by the Board of Trade to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th ultimo, inclosing copy of a despatch from Sir N. O'Conor, with reference to an expected proposal on the part of the Sublime Porte to increase the *ad valorem* rates of customs duties by 3 per cent. pending the conclusion of negotiations for new Commercial Treaties, and asking if the Board of Trade have any observations to make thereon.

The Board are also in receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, inclosing copy of a further despatch from Sir N. O'Conor, and the text of the actual proposals received from the Porte relating to the proposed change of Tariff.

The Board note that the Turkish proposals include the raising of the *ad valorem* Tariff from 8 to 11 per cent. as from the 1st May next, and the adoption from the 1st March, 1901, of the so-called "Conventional Tariff" conditionally signed by Mr. Wrench in 1885, and subsequently amended.

With reference to the proposed temporary increase of the *ad valorem* Tariff, I am to observe that the Board do not apprehend that an increase from 8 to 11 per cent. in the Turkish customs duties would, if fairly levied, seriously hamper the more important branches of British trade with Turkey, provided, of course, that the rise of duties applied equally to importations from all countries. They entirely concur, however, in the action taken by Her Majesty's Ambassador, in concert with the other foreign Representatives, in declining to admit any modification of existing Customs arrangements without a previous understanding with the Powers, and they have no doubt that Sir N. O'Conor will bear in mind the possibility that the present request of the Porte may afford a suitable opportunity of pressing for the removal of any outstanding grievances of British traders as regards Turkish Customs Administration and other matters affecting trade. With regard to these points the Board of Trade would be prepared, if desired, to offer some further suggestions.

With regard to the proposed introduction of the Specific Tariff, I am directed to inform you that, on receipt of your letter of the 20th ultimo, the Board gave instructions for this Tariff (in the form received from Sir W. White in 1891) to be examined in relation to recent changes in the prices of goods exported from this country to Turkey, with a view to determining how far the specific rates of duty embodied therein still correspond to the *ad valorem* rates to which they were intended to be equivalent. The result of this examination is now nearly completed, and will be communicated to you at an early date.

As regards the suggestion for the renewal of negotiations for new Commercial Treaties, the Board await more information as to the provisions of the proposed Treaties before offering any detailed observations thereon.

Two Tables which give an indication of the character and extent of British export trade with Turkey are inclosed herewith (for convenience of reference).*

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. E. BATEMAN.

No. 11.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.†—(*Received April* 11.)

(No. 45. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, April 6*, 1900.

NOTWITHSTANDING the clear terms of the collective *note verbale*, a copy of which I had the honour to transmit to your Lordship in my Commercial despatch No. 37 of the 27th ultimo, stating that the six Embassies would tolerate no increase in the duties imposed without their consent, the Sublime Porte has not yet abandoned its intention of putting in force an increased *ad valorem* Tariff from the 1st (14th) of next month, and the new Conventional Unified Tariff from the 1st (14th) March of next year.

A copy of the Foreign Minister's reply to the collective *note verbale* is inclosed herewith. It states that the Specific Tariff has been already accepted by the Powers; that it is absolutely necessary to fix a date within which the Treaty negotiations which have spread over so many years must be completed, and that financial considerations have compelled the Porte to arrange for an increase in the *ad valorem* duties, to take effect in the interval which must elapse before the specific duties come in force. Apart from any arguments derived from public law, the Sublime Porte appeals to the Powers to take a favourable view of their contention.

A meeting of Ambassadors is to be held this afternoon to consider what reply should be returned to this communication. I may say that those of my colleagues with whom I have spoken on the subject, are agreed with me in thinking that our position in regard to any future commercial negotiations would be rendered extremely difficult if means are not taken to hold the Ottoman Government to its Treaty engagements.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

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* No. 6.
† Copy to Constantinople, No. 33 Commercial, April 14, 1900.

* Not printed.
† Copy to Board of Trade, May 8, 1900.

Inclosure in No. 11.

Tewfik Pâsha to the Ambassadors at Constantinople.

Sublime Porte, le 3 Avril, 1900.

LE Soussigné, Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, a reçu la note collective que leurs Excellences MM. les Ambassadeurs d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie, de France, de Grande-Bretagne, d'Italie, et de Russie lui ont fait l'honneur de lui adresser le 27 Mars dernier, en réponse à sa note circulaire du 29 du même mois concernant la mise en application des nouveaux Traités de Commerce et Tarifs et la majoration provisoire des droits de douane perçus dans l'Empire.

Le Soussigné s'empresse de faire observer à leurs Excellences que le but que le Gouvernement Impérial a toujours poursuivi et qu'il poursuit encore est d'arriver à la mise en vigueur des nouveaux Tarifs et Traités de Commerce. Or, les Tarifs ont été déjà arrêtés et signés d'un commun accord entre la Sublime Porte et les Puissances, et les Traités de Commerce, négociés depuis longtemps, sont presque achevés, à l'exception du Traité Turco-Allemand, qui a été déjà signé et ratifié.

Ces nouveaux actes auraient dû indubitablement recevoir leur application à l'expiration des Traités de Commerce de 1861–62, soit depuis dix ans. Les préjudices que le Trésor Impérial a eu à subir par suite de ce long retard, notamment au point de vue financier, ne sauraient échapper à la judicieuse appréciation de leurs Excellences MM. les Ambassadeurs, le Gouvernement Impérial, qui a fait preuve en cette circonstance de loguanimité se trouvant obligé de sortir de cette situation, a jugé que pour terminer enfin les négociations pendantes, un terme devrait être assigné au réglement des quelques points restés en suspens et a fixé la date du 1er (14) Mars, 1901, délai amplement suffisant. En attendant, les besoins pressants du Trésor Impérial ont nécessité l'application pour ainsi dire partielle des taxes consenties dans les nouveaux Tarifs par une faible majoration des droits d'importation. Dans ces conditions leurs Excellences MM. les Ambassadeurs conviendront qu'il n'y aurait pas lieu d'entrer réciproquement dans l'examen des raisons de droit qui militeraient aussi en faveur de la mesure en question de l'application de laquelle le Gouvernement Impérial s'est fait un devoir de prévenir dûment les missions étrangères.

Le Soussigné aime à espérer que leurs Excellences, lorsqu'elles auront pris connaissance des considérations qui précèdent, voudront bien, dans leurs sentiments de haute équité, envisager à son vrai point de vue le contenu de sa note circulaire précitée.

Comptant en cette occurrence sur leur concours bienveillant, le Soussigné présente à leurs Excellences les Ambassadeurs l'assurance, &c.

(Signé) TEWFIK.

No. 12.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received April 11.)*

(No. 46. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, April 7*, 1900.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 45 of yesterday, I have the honour to inclose herewith to your Lordship a copy of the reply which it was decided at a meeting of the Ambassadors yesterday afternoon to present to-day to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The note reiterates our previous statement to the effect that the Porte cannot increase of its own accord the customs duty, and that no new duty can be levied without a previous understanding with the Powers. At the same time, we express our willingness to submit any proposals for this object which the Sublime Porte may make to us, to our Governments, who alone can authorize us to open negotiations on the subject.

* Copy to Board of Trade, May 8, 1900.

The proposed increase of 3 per cent. is comparatively a small matter, for it will probably fall in great measure on the consumer, and affect but slightly British imports.

The principle at stake, however, is a very serious question, and any concession upon this point which would allow the Turkish Government to assume that they are at liberty by a unilateral decision to increase the customs duty might in the future be attended with ruinous consequences to foreign import trade.

The Turkish Government, as far as we are advised, seem determined to insist upon their view and to put the new Tariff into force if not at so near a date as the 1st (14th) May, at all events within a very short time. They are counting no doubt upon the Powers confining their remonstrances to notes which will not be followed by any action, and they are pressed to take this course by the want of money and universal penury which is more pronounced than for years past.

It would be difficult to request foreign merchants not to pay the duty without guaranteeing them against any loss entailed by the detention of their goods in the Customs, and without some such guarantee they would not unnaturally refuse to comply with any suggestions in this sense. None of the Ambassadors were apparently willing to consider what steps should be taken in case the Ottoman Government persisted in its intention to raise the duties, but they were of opinion that its possibility should be reported to our respective Governments with a view to immediate consultation between them as to the instructions which should be given to their Representatives in the possible eventuality that our present joint remonstrance has no effect.

I have, &c.

(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

Inclosure in No. 12.

Collective Note addressed to the Sublime Porte.

LES Soussignés, Ambassadeurs d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie, de France, de Grande-Bretagne, d'Italie, et de Russie, après avoir pris connaissance de la note que son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères a bien voulu leur adresser à la date du 5 de ce mois, ont l'honneur de lui faire savoir qu'ils persistent dans l'opinion qu'ils lui ont déjà fait connaître, et estiment toujours qu'il n'appartient pas à la Sublime Porte de majorer, par un acte unilatéral de sa volonté, les droits de douane actuellement en vigueur et qu'elle ne peut pas, par conséquent, percevoir de nouvelles taxes sans un accord préalable avec les Puissances.

Quant au bienveillant concours que son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères demande à la fin de sa note, les Soussignés sont tout disposés à le prêter en soumettant les mesures que la Sublime Porte voudrait leur communiquer sous la forme de propositions, à l'examen de leurs Gouvernements, qui peuvent seuls les autoriser à ouvrir à ce sujet des négociations.

Les Soussignés, &c.

(Signé) Baron CALICE.
M. PANSA.
M. ZINOVIEW.
Baron MARSCHALL.
N. R. O'CONOR.
M. CONSTANS.

Le 7 Avril, 1900.

No. 13.

Foreign Office to Board of Trade.

Foreign Office, April 14, 1900.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant relative to the proposals made by the Porte for an increase in the customs duties in the Ottoman Empire.

Lord Salisbury would be glad to receive the suggestions which the Board are prepared to offer as regards Turkish Customs Administration, and other matters affecting trade.

I am further to request that a duplicate of the Tables inclosed in your letters may be sent to this Office for transmission to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople.

I am, &c.
(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

No. 14.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received April 16.)*

(No. 52. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, April 12, 1900.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 46, Commercial, of the 6th instant, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that, in the course of a conversation with the Foreign Minister on the 9th instant, I alluded to the question of the proposed increase of the *ad valorem* duties on imports. I pointed out to his Excellency that, so far as I knew, neither Her Majesty's Government nor the other Powers desired to prevent a moderate increase of duty, or to stifle Turkey by refusing reasonable requests prompted by the difficult position of her finances. It only required a little ordinary management to bring about a satisfactory result, but it was essential that the principle should be maintained that no fresh imposts could be levied without the consent of the Powers.

Tewfik Pasha gave me to understand that he was preparing a note in answer to our communication of the 7th instant, submitting proposals to the Powers for an increase of the import duty from 8 to 11 per cent, *ad valorem*; and that the new duty would not be imposed without our previous consent.

His Excellency's assurances on this point were not, however, quite categorical, and I rather gathered the impression that while he himself was anxious to meet the wishes of the foreign Representatives he was not sure that his colleagues would take the same view.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

No. 15.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.†—(Received April 17.)

(No. 6. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Constantinople, April 17, 1900.*

TURKISH import duties.

My despatch No. 52, Commercial, of the 12th instant.

Ambassadors received a note yesterday from the Porte, in which the latter adheres to its intention of increasing the duties from the 1st (14th) May.

On the ground that the tax on corn and petroleum would be higher under the proposed duty than under the specific Tariff, the Russian Embassy have been instructed to oppose the duty on those two articles. A good many articles of British export, *e.g.*, machinery, coal, yarns, and raw material generally, are in a similar position.

I would suggest consulting other Governments with a view to Ambassadors receiving joint positive instructions, otherwise the Porte will probably carry their point.

It may be well also to approach the Turkish Ambassador in London on the subject, who will report direct to the Sultan.

* Copy to Board of Trade, May 8, 1900.
† Repeated to Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Rome, and St. Petersburgh, April 18, 1900.

The Capitulations will lose all force unless the principle, to which I attach the utmost importance, is maintained, that the previous consent of the Powers is necessary before the Ottoman Government can levy new duties.

No. 16.

Foreign Office to Board of Trade.

(Confidential.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, April 17, 1900.*

WITH reference to your letter of the 7th instant, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit to you, for the confidential information of the Board of Trade, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, inclosing a collective note addressed to the Porte on the proposed increase of the import duties and early application of the new Tariff.*

It is a matter for consideration whether, on the renewal of the negotiations for a new Commercial Treaty, Her Majesty's Government should not insist on the introduction into the Treaty of a stipulation debarring the Porte from granting kilometric guarantees to the concessionnaires of railways within the Turkish dominions; and Lord Salisbury would be glad to receive the Board's observations on the suggestion.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ST. JOHN BRODRICK.

No. 17.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.†—(Received April 18.)

(No. 7. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Constantinople, April 17, 1900.*

IT was decided at a meeting of Ambassadors held to-day to reply to the Porte's note of the 14th April in the sense of our previous notes, holding the Ottoman Government responsible at the same time for its violation of our rights under Treaty.

My colleagues inclined to the opinion that our remonstrances will be disregarded by the Porte, and they are agreed that the Capitulations will be very seriously endangered if we yield in this matter.

It was agreed that we should apply to our respective Governments for instructions, informing them that our diplomatic action here was exhausted.

It would be advisable, in our opinion, that the respective Governments should consult together as to the steps to be taken in a matter of such general interest, and that they should make serious representations to the Turkish Ambassadors in the various capitals.

A belief that the Powers will not come to any common agreement appears to us to be the explanation of the obstinacy of the Sublime Porte in persisting in its present course of action.

No. 18.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir E. Monson.‡

(No. 5. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, April 18, 1900.*

WITH reference to my Commercial telegram immediately preceding,§ I request your Excellency to inquire of the French Government whether the view held by Her

* No. 8. † Repeated to Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Rome, and St. Petersburg, April 18, 1900.
‡ Also to Berlin (No. 2), Vienna (No. 2), Rome (No. 5) and St. Petersburgh (No. 3).
§ Repeating No. 6 from Constantinople.

Majesty's Government—that the previous consent of the Great Powers is essential before the Porte can impose new or increased duties—is shared by the Government of the Republic.

No. 19.

Sir E. Monson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received April 19.)

(No. 4. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Paris, April 19, 1900.*

THE French Government entirely share the view held by Her Majesty's Government with regard to the Turkish customs duties, which formed the subject of your Lordship's telegram No. 5, Commercial.

Instructions in that sense have been sent to the French Ambassador at Constantinople.

No. 20.

Lord Currie to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received April 19.)*

(No. 11. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Rome, April 19, 1900.*

TURKISH customs duties.

Following in reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 5, Commercial.

The view of Her Majesty's Government that increased duties cannot be imposed in Turkey without the previous consent of the Powers is agreed in by the Italian Foreign Minister.

He is of opinion that the principle, based on the Capitulations, must be maintained as a guarantee of European interests, and that it would be dangerous to allow any modification of it.

The Italian Ambassador in Constantinople will be instructed to act in accordance with the views expressed to me by M. Visconti-Venosta. His Excellency has no information as to the views of Germany, but he believes that the Powers are in accord.

Austria agrees in principle with the Italian view, but Count Goluchowski considers that if the principle for which the Powers contend is maintained, the demands of Turkey might be conceded.

No. 21

Sir H. Rumbold to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received April 19.)*

(No. 1. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Vienna, April 19, 1900.*

I HAVE the honour to report, with reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 2, Commercial, that the Minister for Foreign Affairs, with whom I have had a conversation, entirely agrees with the view expressed by your Lordship that before imposing new or increased duties the previous consent of the Powers should be obtained by the Porte.

Count Goluchowski informed me that a categorical declaration in the above sense had been made by the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador at Constantinople. His Excellency is of opinion that the Porte will give way, as on former occasions, when it sees that the Powers are in perfect accord. The Austro-Hungarian Representatives at the various capitals have received his Excellency's instructions to discuss the steps which should be taken under the circumstances.

* Repeated to Constantinople, April 20, 1900.

Following confidential:

It appears that Count Goluchowski admitted to the French Ambassador that he had some apprehension that difficulties might be made by the German Government.

No. 22.

Sir F. Lascelles to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received April 19.)*

(No. 2. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Berlin, April 19, 1900.*

WITH reference to your telegram No. 2, Commercial, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that I was informed this morning by Baron von Richthofen, whom I acquainted with the substance of your telegrams Nos. 1 and 3, that the opinion of the German Ambassador at Constantinople was that the Porte would give way on the customs duty question.

The Imperial Government approved the action of the Ambassadors, but if the Porte proved obdurate, which it was to be hoped, however, would not be the case, they were unable to decide what course they should pursue in view of their Commercial Treaty with Turkey.

No. 23.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 35. Commercial.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, April 19, 1900.*

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch No. 37, Commercial, of the 27th ultimo, inclosing a copy of the collective note to the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs in reply to the announcement by the Porte of its decision to raise the *ad valorem* duties on imports from 8 to 11 per cent. from the 1st May next, and to apply the new Conventional Specific Tariff from the 1st March, 1901.

I approve the action thus taken by your Excellency in conjunction with your colleagues.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 24.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received April 20.)

(No. 54. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, April 10, 1900.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 52, Commercial, of the 12th instant, I have the honour to transmit copy of a further note from the Foreign Minister in reply to the last collective note of the six Embassies on the subject of the proposed increase of the import duties.

Your Lordship will see that the Sublime Porte is still determined to carry its point, namely, the unconditional imposition of a higher duty.

As another meeting of Ambassadors will doubtless be held in a day or two to consider the situation, I will reserve my observations upon it for a further despatch.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

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* Repeated to Constantinople, April 20, 1900.

Inclosure in No. 24.

Tewfik Pasha to the Ambassadors at Constantinople.

Sublime Porte, le 14 Avril, 1900.

LE Soussigné, Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, a reçu la nouvelle note collective que leurs Excellences MM. les Ambassadeurs d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie, de France, de la Grande-Bretagne, d'Italie, et de Russie lui ont fait l'honneur de lui adresser à la date du 7 Avril courant en réponse à sa communication du 3 du même mois.

Le Soussigné se fait un devoir de faire observer que la situation du fisc Impérial nécessitant d'une manière absolue une augmentation immédiate des revenus de l'État, il ne serait guère pratique de faire l'objet de négociations officielles pour un temps indéfini une mesure qui, ainsi qu'il a été exposé dans la note du 22 Mars dernier, étant toute provisoire et essentiellement indispensable n'apportera ses effets que depuis le 1er (14) Mai prochain jusqu'à la mise en application des nouveaux Tarifs convenus.

Entamer maintenant dans les conditions d'urgence et exceptionnelles où l'on se trouve une discussion ou un examen contradictoire par rapport à la majoration de 8 pour cent des droits de douane, aurait inévitablement pour conséquence de retarder d'autant et sans profit pour les parties intéressées les négociations qui devront avoir lieu incessamment en vue de la conclusion seule des nouveaux Traités.

Le Soussigné, tout en remerciant donc leurs Excellences du concours bienveillant qu'elles lui promettent en cette circonstance, se plaît à espérer que, pénétré du caractère urgent et provisoire de la mesure dont il s'agit, voudront bien ne plus en contester l'opportunité.

Le Soussigné, &c.

(Signé) TEWFIK.

No. 25

Sir E. Monson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received April 20.)*

(No. 5. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Paris, April 20, 1900.*

YOUR Lordship's telegram No. 7, Commercial, of to-day.

I saw the Minister for Foreign Affairs yesterday, and told him that Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople had expressed his opinion that the decision to raise the Turkish import duties without international sanction would be a direct blow to the validity of the Capitulations. He replied that it certainly seemed so to him. He also told me that he would instruct the French Ambassador in London to inform your Lordship that he entirely shared the view you had expressed in your telegram No. 5, Commercial.

M. Delcassé proposes spending a week or ten days in the Pyrenees, and leaves Paris to-morrow night.

No. 26.

Sir C. Scott to the Marquess of Salisbury.†—(Received April 20.)

(No. 3. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *St. Petersburgh, April 20, 1900.*

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 3, Commercial, Minister for Foreign Affairs replies that the view of all the other Powers on this point is entirely shared by the Russian Government, as evidenced by their Ambassador participating in the collective note which was addressed to the Porte on the 7th April.

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* Repeated to Constantinople, April 21, 1900.
† Repeated to Constantinople, April 20, 1900.

No. 27.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir E. Monson.

(No. 7. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, April 20, 1900.*

FRENCH Embassy inform me that French Government consider the decision of the Porte to increase the customs duties to be a blow directed at the Capitulations.

They inquire whether they will be joined by Her Majesty's Government in opposing the measure which the Porte has adopted.

(Sent also to Constantinople, No. 5, Commercial.)

No. 28.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir H. Rumbold.

(No. 17 A. Commercial.)
Foreign Office, April 20, 1900.

Sir,

THE Austro-Hungarian Ambassador called at this Department to-day to communicate the views of his Government with regard to the attempt of the Porte to increase the Turkish customs duties without the previous consent of the Powers.

His Excellency stated that Count Goluchowski thought it impossible to admit such a pretension, which would endanger the rights of foreigners under the Capitulations, and was of opinion that the question whether and how far the financial difficulties of the Porte should be considered, could only be discussed after the Porte had recognized its obligation to obtain the consent of the Powers.

Count Deym inquired whether Her Majesty's Government agreed in this view.

I have informed his Excellency that I concur with Count Goluchowski in thinking that it is impossible to admit such a pretension, which would endanger the rights of foreigners under the Capitulations.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 29.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received April 21.)*

(No. 9. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Constantinople, April 21, 1900.*

I AM informed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs that at a Cabinet Council held on Thursday last, the 19th instant, it was decided not to increase the import duties without first obtaining the consent of the Powers; that this decision had been confirmed by the Sultan, but that the Porte has not yet received His Imperial Majesty's Iradé.

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* Copy to Board of Trade, April 25, 1900.

No. 30.

*The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.**

(No. 8. Commercial. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, April* 21, 1900.

I INSTRUCTED Sir Thomas Sanderson to speak confidentially to the Turkish Ambassador in regard to the proposed increase of customs duties. He said to the Ambassador that I wished to warn the Sublime Porte in a friendly manner that by insisting, as it was doing, on making this change without the previous consent of the Powers, it was placing itself in an untenable position. As the matter stood it was a claim to ignore Treaty stipulations, which all the Governments would on principle feel bound to resist.

Reasonable measures for meeting the financial difficulties of the Ottoman Empire would not, in my opinion, be obstructed by any desire to the contrary, provided the Powers were approached in the proper way so as to obtain their consent. For this purpose there was still time enough before the date fixed for the increase of duties, if the matter were no longer delayed but immediately taken in hand.

Upon Sir Thomas Sanderson saying this the Turkish Ambassador stated that he would at once telegraph to his Government.

It is not my wish, however, to take a prominent part in the matter, in regard to which the German Government is holding a rather ambiguous attitude.

No. 31.

Foreign Office to Count Deym.

(Private.)
My dear Ambassador, *Foreign Office, April* 21, 1900.

I HAVE reported to Lord Salisbury the communication which you made yesterday respecting the attempt of the Porte to increase its customs duties without the consent of the Powers

Lord Salisbury desires me to say that he agrees with Count Goluchowski in thinking that it is impossible to admit such a pretension, which would endanger the rights of foreigners under the Capitulations.

Believe me, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 32.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received April 23.)

(No. 58. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, April* 19, 1900.

I HAVE already had the honour to inform your Lordship, by my telegram No. 7, Commercial, of the 17th April, that a meeting of Ambassadors was held the day before yesterday to consider the last Turkish note on the subject of the proposed increase in the *ad valorem* import duties, and that it was decided to address a further collective note to the Foreign Minister in reply, and to apply for instructions to our respective Governments.

I have now the honour to transmit copy of the collective note as sent in on the 18th instant. It states that the apparent determination of the Ottoman Government to apply the new duties without having obtained the previous consent of the

* Figures sent by post to Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Rome, and St. Petersburgh, April 23, 1900.

interested Powers would constitute a manifest violation of their rights, and that they must hold the Imperial Government alone responsible for the consequences.

As I remarked in my telegram, it would appear as if the Porte were relying on a fancied conflict of opinion among the various Embassies.

The meetings of Ambassadors, however, which have been held in consequence of the attitude of the Sublime Porte in this matter, have not disclosed any want of unanimity, and I may say that all my colleagues seem equally convinced of the necessity which has arisen for making this Government understand that the fundamental principles of the Capitulations cannot be allowed to be violated.

I am glad to observe that the Board of Trade concur with an opinion which I have obtained from the British Chamber of Commerce at Constantinople, to the effect that an increase from 8 to 11 per cent. in the present customs duties of Turkey would not, if fairly applied, seriously hamper the more important branches of British trade. The above-mentioned Chamber considered that not more than perhaps 10 per cent. of British imports would be to some extent affected by the rise, and that this observation would apply to the following articles: cotton and woollen yarns, certain cotton and silk fabrics, linseed oil, ropes, and coal.

In my telegram No. 6, Commercial, of the 17th instant, I stated that the Russian Government had sent instructions to their Embassy to sanction no increase of duties which would cause petroleum and corn—in the export of which Russia is so largely concerned—to be more heavily taxed than they would be under the Specific Tariff agreed to ten years ago, but not yet put in force.

This point, however, was not brought forward at the meeting by the Russian Chargé d'Affaires, who had apparently received no definite instructions on the point from M. Zinoview before the latter's departure on leave of absence, although M. Zinoview had told the Italian Ambassador, from whom I obtained the information, that the Russian Government had laid great stress on the necessity of protecting corn and petroleum from any duty exceeding that of the Specific Tariff.

It appears that under an 11 per cent. *ad valorem* duty these articles would, in fact, be prejudiced as compared with the said Specific Tariff.

The same may be said of many articles of British export to Turkey, excluding, of course, fully manufactured articles, such as the cotton fabrics, which form the main staple of the imports from England. Thus, to take the articles mentioned by the British Chamber of Commerce, yarns, coal, and ropes would be better off under the Specific Tariff, which taxes them on the basis of 8 per cent. *ad valorem*, and silk fabrics and linseed oil would be about equally well off under either Tariff, being taxed at 12 per cent. *ad valorem* in the Specific Tariff.

I trust that if your Lordship sees fit to confer with the other Governments concerned, an agreement may be arrived at as to the definite instructions which are now needed at Constantinople to foil a very determined effort on the part of Turkey to shake off a portion of her obligations under Treaty.

Their desire for higher duties is natural, and an agreement on the subject would not present insuperable difficulties; but it is of the highest importance that the principle of the necessity of a previous understanding with the Powers should be firmly maintained.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

Inclosure in No. 32.

Collective Note addressed to the Sublime Porte.

LES Soussignés, Ambassadeurs d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie, de France, de Grande-Bretagne, et d'Italie, et le Chargé d'Affaires de Russie, ont eu l'honneur de recevoir la note de son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan en date du 14 courant, concernant une majoration des droits de douane.

Il paraîtrait d'après cette note que le Gouvernement Impérial serait décidé à procéder en fait à l'application d'une mesure de cette nature sans avoir obtenu au préalable le consentement des Puissances intéressées.

Cette manière d'agir constituerait une violation manifeste de leurs droits, droits que les besoins auxquels fait allusion la note précitée ne sauraient aucunement infirmer.

Les Soussignés déclarent donc, d'ores et déjà, que le Gouvernement Impérial serait seul responsable des conséquences auxquelles l'exposerait un pareil procédé.

Les Soussignés, &c.

(Signé) Baron von MARSCHALL.
Baron CALICE.
M. CONSTANS.
N. R. O'CONOR.
M. PANSA.
M. STCHEBATCHEFF.

Constantinople, le 18 Avril, 1900.

No. 33.

Sir H. Rumbold to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received April 23.)*

(No. 21. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Vienna, April 20*, 1900.

I HAVE the honour to report that I called by appointment on Count Goluchowski yesterday, and acquitted myself of the instructions contained in your Lordship's telegram No. 2, Commercial, of the 18th instant.

Count Goluchowski at once said that he entirely shares the view taken by Her Majesty's Government as to its being essential that, before imposing new or increased customs duties, the Porte should previously obtain the consent of the Powers. The Austro-Hungarian Ambassador had already made a categorical declaration to that effect.

With reference to the fear expressed by the Ambassadors that the Porte might take no account of the remonstrances addressed to it, and persist in its present course under the impression that the Powers would not make a united firm stand in this question, his Excellency said that he believed that, as on other occasions, the Porte would give way when it saw that complete agreement existed between the Powers.

Count Goluchowski added that he was instructing the Austro-Hungarian Representatives at the great capitals to consult the Governments to which they are accredited as to the steps that should now be taken.

While fully recognizing the necessity of safe-guarding the principle that the Porte could not proceed unilaterally in this matter, and must first be assured of the consent of the Powers—the all-important question of the Capitulations being in fact involved in this—Count Goluchowski observed that later on it would probably be desirable to come to the assistance of the Porte in the very serious financial difficulties in which it is now placed.

The increase which it was proposed to make in the duties was really very moderate. His Excellency put it at something like 3 per cent., which on purely fiscal grounds could not be thought unreasonable, and the Porte did not know where to turn for the resources it so sorely needs.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HORACE RUMBOLD.

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* Copy to Constantinople, No. 39, Commercial, April 25, 1900.

No. 34.

Sir H. Rumbold to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received April 23.)*

(No. 22. Commercial. Confidential.)
My Lord, *Vienna, April 20*, 1900.

WITH reference to my immediately preceding despatch, Commercial, I may mention in confidence that the French Ambassador, who saw Count Goluchowski immediately after me on the question of the pretension of the Porte to levy increased customs duties without the previous sanction of the Powers, tells me that he gathered that his Excellency seemed to apprehend the possibility of difficulties being raised at Berlin in this affair that might endanger the unanimity which it was necessary that the Powers should show in dealing with the Porte in a question involving so important a principle.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HORACE RUMBOLD.

No. 35.

Sir E. Monson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received April 25.)

(No. 108. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Paris, April 24*, 1900.

I RECEIVED this morning your Lordship's despatch No. 68, Commercial, of the 23rd instant, in which you have been so good as to communicate to me the text of your telegram No. 8, Commercial, to Sir N. O'Conor, respecting the intention of the Porte to raise the import duties.

M. Delcassé has left Paris for the Pyrenees, and will be absent at least a week. I should, under any circumstances, have been careful not to stimulate his apparent desire to take vigorous measures by encouraging him to believe that Her Majesty's Government would adopt a similar line of conduct; but as his Excellency has caused an official intimation to be circulated to the Embassies that there will be no Diplomatic reception this week, I shall have no opportunity of seeing him before the 2nd May.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDMUND MONSON.

No. 36.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.† —(Received April 25.)

(No. 10. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Constantinople, April 24*, 1900.

TURKISH import duties.

My colleagues are considering what concessions we should demand in return for the new import duty which it seems pretty certain the Sublime Porte will not now levy without the consent of the Powers.

All are disposed to accord their assent provided certain glaring abuses in the Customs Administration are redressed, whilst some of them, my French and Italian colleagues in particular, consider that the moment is very opportune for insisting on the settlement of the Armenian massacre claims, especially in view of the reported action of the United States, before they consent to the increase of the duties.

The German Ambassador is willing to join in pressing the claims, but not as a condition to our consent to the customs duties.

My Austrian, Italian, and French colleagues have applied for instructions, and I said I would do the same.

I have not yet been able to see the Russian Chargé d'Affaires.

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* Copy to Constantinople and Berlin, April 25, 1900.
† Repeated to Paris, Berlin, Vienna, St. Petersburgh, Rome and Washington, April 25; copy to Board of Trade, April 25, 1900.

No. 37.

*Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.**—(*Received April* 25.)

(No. 11. Commercial. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Constantinople, April* 24, 1900.

MY telegram No. 10, Commercial, of to-day.

The prospect of the United States possibly taking action to enforce the payment of the indemnities for the Armenian massacres seems to disconcert the French Ambassador, who has a strong dislike to the idea of America appearing in the Mediterranean as a Naval Power; in fact, he thinks that, rather than let the United States act alone—should the latter decide on coercive measures—his Government may elect to join with them.

The Turkish Minister in Washington, so M. Constans tells me, has been strongly advised by two Ambassadors—I have no doubt he means the Russian and French—to yield.

He also tells me in confidence that he has suggested to M. Delcassé that he should ask the Russian Government, as an act of friendship, to support their demand for the settlement of the massacre claims.

Apart from other considerations I consider it would be well, if possible, to take advantage of the present opportunity and of the attitude of the United States, which strengthens our position, to get these claims settled and out of the way of the negotiations respecting the Cyprus tribute. It is, moreover, possible the Sultan may think his dignity will be less compromised if he yields to united pressure from the Powers than if he concedes the demands of one Power acting alone.

Unfortunately the German Ambassador thinks that his Government will not agree to insist on the payment of the claims as a necessary condition to their assent to the new import duty, especially as they only amount to a trifling sum. I fear that the importance of being unanimous will oblige us to disconnect the two questions, though an immediate and satisfactory settlement will be thereby endangered.

No. 38.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 30 A. Commercial.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, April* 25, 1900.

THE Turkish Ambassador called upon me to-day and pressed me to instruct your Excellency to facilitate negotiations as to changes in the Turkish Customs Tariff, which, it was now agreed, could only be effected by the common consent of the Porte and the Powers.

I replied that your Excellency would be instructed to facilitate any such negotiations in whatever way, and to whatever extent, might appear to you advantageous to Great Britain and to the Ottoman Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 39.

Board of Trade to Foreign Office.—(*Received April* 30.)

(Confidential.)
Sir, *Board of Trade, April* 28, 1900.

I AM directed by the Board of Trade to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 14th and 17th instant, with further reference to the Turkish proposals to increase provisionally the rate of customs duty from 8 to 11 per cent., and to resume negotiations for the conclusion of Commercial Treaties and for the introduction of a specific Tariff.

With reference to the queries contained in your letters, and also to previous correspondence on this subject, I am directed to offer the following observations:—

* Repeated to Paris, Berlin, Vienna, St. Petersburgh, Rome, and Washington, April 25, 1900.

1. As regards the matters affecting British trade and shipping on which it is desirable, if possible, to arrive at a better understanding with the Turkish Government as a condition of agreeing to the present proposal to increase the Turkish customs duties, I am to make the following suggestions:—

(*a.*) The attention of the Board of Trade has more than once been directed to the rates of sanitary dues levied on shipping in Turkish waters. It is understood that these dues are levied solely for the purpose of defraying the expense of the Ottoman Sanitary service, but the published accounts of the Ottoman Board of Health show a considerable surplus every year. It is true that owing to various causes, *e.g.*, the plague, the annual surplus has lately been less than it was a few years ago; but even last year the surplus on the Mediterranean and Black Sea service amounted to nearly 13,000*l.*, or over a quarter of the total tonnage dues collected. Moreover, a reserve fund of over 200,000*l.* has been accumulated out of the annual surpluses of recent years. A large proportion of the Sanitary dues fall upon British shipping, and the Board suggest that an effort might be made to obtain some reduction of these dues as a condition of assenting to the proposed increase of customs duties.

(*b.*) Another question of great interest to British ship-owners is the improvement of the lighting of the Red Sea. The Board understand that a Convention was recently entered into between the Ottoman Government and the Administration des Phares to erect four lights within five years from the present time, and that it was proposed by the Turkish Government to raise a revenue from additional light dues at the rate of $\frac{1}{2}$*d.* per ton of shipping. In September last, however, Her Majesty's Government declined to agree to the Turkish proposals to levy additional dues, and the Board of Trade are not clear whether or not the result of this refusal has been to invalidate the contract and to postpone the erection of the new lights. They consider, therefore, that the present is a suitable opportunity to make inquiries on this point, and to obtain a definite assurance from the Turkish Government, as part of the consideration for agreeing to the raising of the customs duties, that the new lights will be erected without delay and without entailing the levying of any additional dues on British shipping.

(*c.*) In the course of the recent negotiations respecting the Constantinople quay dues, reference was made to the burden inflicted on trade by the excessive charges of the outside porters who carry the goods from the Custom-house to the importers' premises. These porters were said to form a privileged guild claiming a monopoly of the work.

In the final agreement arrived at through Sir N. O'Conor's efforts, the grievances of traders as regards the cost of carriage of goods from the vessels across the quays and through the Custom-house appear to have been satisfactorily adjusted, but it is not clear from the papers in the possession of the Board that a remedy was also obtained as regards the claim of the guild of outside porters to a monopoly of the work of carrying goods from the Custom-house to importers' warehouses. Sir N. O'Conor will doubtless be aware how this matter stands at present, but should the grievance continue unabated it seems to the Board that advantage might be taken of the present opportunity to press either for the abolition of the porters' monopoly or for a reduction of their tariff.

(*d.*) There are some points as regards the treatment at Turkish custom-houses of drugs and patent medicines which might usefully be borne in mind at a later stage of negotiations in connection with the proposed Commercial Treaties.

2. As regards the Specific Tariff provisionally agreed to in 1885, the Board of Trade have caused an examination to be made of the portions of this Tariff (in the final form as furnished by Sir W. White in 1891) which more particularly affect British trade with Turkey. The results of this examination are shown in the Tabular inclosure (A),* and the accompanying Memorandum, from which it will be seen that the effect of the changes in prices which have taken place since 1885 would be to make the specific rates of duty on the most important articles exported from this country to Turkey correspond at present prices to considerably higher *ad valorem* rates than those to which they were supposed to be equivalent at the time when the Tariff was negotiated. Taking the prices of 1898, a fair recent year, the Board estimate in the case of cotton piece-goods that the rates embodied in the Tariff would amount to 18 per cent., as compared with 15 per cent. in 1885. In the case of cotton yarns the rates would average 11 instead of 8 per cent. These two classes of goods account for 70 per cent. of the whole of British exports to Turkey. The effect of the change of prices on the rates for other less important articles of commerce will be seen by reference to the Memorandum and Tables inclosed.* The year 1898 is the latest for which full details of export prices are available, and is, in the Board's opinion, a fair year for the purpose of estimating the incidence of the Tariff at

* Not printed.

recent prices. No doubt, owing to special circumstances, cotton prices at the present time are considerably higher than in 1898, but the scarcity of cotton to which this temporary inflation is due is so exceptional that to base a Tariff on the present values would be quite inadmissible. With reference to this matter, I am to suggest that an effort should be made to obtain a reduction of the rates proposed in the Tariff as regards cotton yarns and piece-goods, and that if this effort is successful the Tariff might otherwise be accepted as it stands.

3. As regards the queries contained in your letter of the 17th instant, as to the desirability of introducing into the new Commercial Treaty to be negotiated with Turkey, a stipulation debarring the Porte from granting kilometric guarantees to the concessionnaires of railways within the Turkish dominions, I am to state that the Board are of opinion that the question of any such stipulation requires very careful consideration and involves considerable difficulties, and that they propose to deal with the matter in detail in a separate communication. I am, however, to state generally that the difficulties which the Board apprehend in attempting to obtain the insertion of the proposed stipulation in the new Treaty arise, not only from the extent to which Turkey is already committed to a policy of kilometric guarantees by the terms of existing conditions (*e.g.*, those made to the Anatolian Railway); but also from the inability of Her Majesty's Government to give a corresponding assurance as regards railways in the United Kingdom in view of the Treasury and County guarantees of dividend on certain Irish railways under the Act of 1883, and of the provisions for Treasury aid in section 5 of the Light Railways Act of 1896.

It is true that neither of these Acts contemplates a mileage guarantee in the same form as that involved in the Concession to the Anatolian Railway Company, but it would be difficult to draft a stipulation which would effectively prevent the one form of aid without interfering with the other, nor is it easy to see what could be gained by merely compelling the Turkish Government to change the form of its subsidies.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. E. BATEMAN.

Inclosure in No. 39.

Memorandum.

1. THE accompanying Statement has been drawn up in accordance with instructions, with a view to showing, so far as we are able from the materials at our command, how far the specific rates of duty embodied in the draft Turkish Tariff, proposed in connection with the Anglo-Turkish commercial negotiations in 1885, now correspond with the *ad valorem* rates to which they were then supposed to be equivalent.

2. The statement covers the principal articles of export from this country to Turkey, and comprises goods of British and Irish production to the value of 5,529,000*l.* out of the 6,191,000*l.*, which was the total value of such goods exported to Turkey in 1898, *i.e.*, 89 per cent. of the whole. It also includes some articles of importance in our export trade to Turkey of goods of foreign and colonial production. Owing, however, to the fact that several of the classes of goods mentioned in the Statement are entered by value only on export from the United Kingdom, it has not been found possible in every case to frame an estimate of what would be the present *ad valorem* equivalent of the specific rate of the 1885 draft Tariff.

3. The Statement shows that on the basis of recent prices the following articles would apparently pay less duty *ad valorem* than they would have done in 1885 had the Specific Tariff been then in force, viz., rice, coffee, some classes of iron and steel, and manufactures thereof, worsted stuffs, and woollen carpets. In the case of some other articles, such as glass and glass wares, hoop iron, angle bolt, and rod iron, copper and copper wares, leather, cotton sewing thread, some classes of cotton hosiery, jute yarn, jute piece-goods, alkali, linen yarn, raw wool, and various woollen (and mixed woollen) tissues prices appear to have varied so little as between 1885 and 1898 (*i.e.*, so far as indicated by the quantities and values of our exports) that the estimated *ad valorem* rates of duty on these articles either remain unchanged or have not increased by more than one in the percentage. The following remain as being the principal articles of interest in our trade with Turkey, which would, apparently, have to bear an increased *ad valorem* charge, if the draft Tariff of 1885 should be put into force, viz., herrings, tea, indigo, tin plates, galvanized sheet iron, iron and steel rails, steel bars, steel sheets, unwrought tin, cotton

yarns, cotton piece-goods, linen piece-goods, mixed silk piece-goods, woollen and worsted yarns, worsted coatings and woollen flannels.

4. The total value of the articles comprised in this last group (omitting tea and indigo as being of foreign or colonial production) amounted to 4,519,000*l.*, or 73 per cent. of our exports of British produce to Turkey in 1898; while the value of the group in which there would apparently be little or no appreciable change, amounted to about 562,000*l.*, or 9 per cent.; and the value of the group in which there would be an apparent reduction of *ad valorem* charge amounted to about 132,000*l.*, or only 2 per cent., leaving 978,000*l.*, or 16 per cent., as to which no estimate has been made.

5. It would seem, on consideration of these figures, that the Tariff which may be assumed to have been agreed upon as fair and reasonable in 1885, would not be altogether so now. This, however, is mainly due to the fact that cotton yarns and piece-goods account for no less than 4,379,000*l.*, or 70 per cent. of the whole of our export trade to Turkey, and that it is estimated that duties on these articles would be increased by the Tariff owing to reduction of price from 8 to 11 per cent. in the case of yarns, and from 15 to 18 per cent. in the case of piece-goods. It would, therefore, be desirable to make an effort to obtain from Turkey some additional concessions as regards these two classes of goods, especially as so much of the increased revenue which Turkey would expect to derive from the Tariff, would fall upon British trade, and upon this particular portion of that trade. If such concessions could be insured, the Tariff might, perhaps, be accepted almost as it stands.

G. S.

April 23, 1900.

No. 40.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 40. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, April 30, 1900.

Sir,

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch No. 58, Commercial, of the 19th instant, inclosing the collective note which was addressed to the Porte on the 18th instant by the Representatives of the Powers, with regard to the proposed increase of the Turkish customs duties.

Your Excellency's proceedings in this matter are approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 41.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received May* 4.)

(No. 63. Commercial.)

Constantinople, April 30, 1900.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my telegram No. 9, Commercial, of the 21st April, I have the honour to transmit copy of a note in which the Ottoman Foreign Minister has at last made a request for the co-operation of the Embassies with a view to an increase in the import duties.

His Excellency remarks, strangely enough, that the Imperial Government had no thought of proceeding in this matter unilaterally, as is proved by his preceding notes, which, he states, were written with the object of obtaining the consent of the Great Powers to the measure in question. After alluding to the sacrifices incurred by his Government during the seventeen years which have elapsed since the denunciation of the last Treaties, and to the successful efforts which it claims to have made in the interests of commerce, Tewfik Pasha expresses a hope that the Embassies will do what is necessary to bring about the desired understanding, with a view to the early application of the increased duty. He again asks that Delegates may be sent to the Sublime Porte to conclude the suspended Treaty negotiations.

A meeting of the Ambassadors is to be held to-morrow at the Austrian Embassy to consider the note and the reply. The feeling of my colleagues at present is that it is

advisable, in order to secure unanimity, to confine our demands for compensation, in return for our consent to the 8 per cent., to the redress of certain glaring customs abuses.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

Inclosure in No. 41.

Tewfik Pasha to the Ambassadors at Constantinople.

Sublime Porte, le 20 Avril, 1900.

LE Soussigné, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, a reçu la note collective que leurs Excellences MM. les Ambassadeurs d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie, de France, de la Grande-Bretagne, et d'Italie, et M. le Chargé d'Affaires de Russie, ont bien voulu lui adresser en date du 18 Avril courant concernant la majoration des droits de douane.

Il a l'honneur d'observer, en réponse, qu'il n'entrait pas dans la pensée du Gouvernement Impérial d'obtenir la majoration de 3 pour cent par un acte unilatéral, et, qu'au contraire, les démarches faites auprès de leurs Excellences par ses notes précédentes avaient précisément pour but d'amener sur ce point l'assentiment des Grandes Puissances. Toutefois le Gouvernement Impérial, vu les énormes sacrifices qu'il s'était imposés en conservant le *statu quo* pendant les dix-sept ans qui suivirent la dénonciation des Traités de Commerce par la Sublime Porte, et, eu égard aux besoins pressants du Trésor Impérial, pensait que la faible majoration de 3 pour cent ne rencontrerait pas d'opposition de la part de leurs Excellences, d'autant plus que cette majoration doit prendre fin avec la mise en application des nouveaux Tarifs qui avaient été arrêtés d'un commun accord.

La majoration proposée se trouve, du reste, parfaitement justifiée par les efforts que le Gouvernement Impérial a déployé et les charges qu'il s'est imposées, en vue d'étendre et d'augmenter les mesures et moyens dont le commerce en général, et particulièrement le commerce étranger, ont largement profité, comme il est prouvé par la progression croissante du chiffre des importations dans l'Empire.

Le Soussigné fait donc appel aux sentiments équitables et bienveillants de leurs Excellences, et espère que, pénétrées des explications qui précèdent, elles voudront bien faire le nécessaire afin d'amener l'entente désirée pour la mise en application prochaine de la majoration susvisée.

Le Soussigné prie, en outre, leurs Excellences d'envoyer au Ministère Impérial leurs Délégués pour finir les négociations relatives aux nouveaux Traités de Commerce, et saisit, &c.

(Signé) TEWFIK.

No. 42.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.[*] —(*Received May 7.*)

(No. 64. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, May 2*, 1900.

A MEETING of Ambassadors was held yesterday to consider the Turkish note inviting the concurrence of the Embassies with a view to increasing the import duties, a copy of which was inclosed in my Commercial despatch to your Lordship No. 63 of the 30th ultimo.

It was agreed to refer to our respective Governments the accompanying Resolution embodying the following conditions, which it seems advisable to attach to our acceptance of the augmented duties :—

1. Every article the importation of which is neither expressly prohibited nor restricted by the Treaties shall be admitted.

2. Prohibited or restricted articles, if regularly declared at the Customs, shall be re-exported, and cannot be confiscated.

3. The same course shall be pursued in the case of the following articles :—

(*a.*) Chemical preparations and specialities.

(*b.*) Eatables and drinkables.

[*] Copy to India Office and Board of Trade, May 17, 1900.

(*c.*) Soaps, toys, and colours, if, after examination by the competent experts, they are ascertained to be capable of injuring the public health, or fraudulently imposing upon the consumer. The examination to be conducted in every case without delay, and subject to the control of the Customs, under conditions to be fixed by agreement. No charge to be made for cost of analysis.

4. Reduction of the "ardie" or storage dues.

These conditions, if accepted, would abolish, or at least reduce, some of the more glaring abuses of the custom-house. They would put a stop, so long as they were respected, to the frequent and arbitrary rejection of articles against the importation of which there is no Treaty provision; to the confiscation of books and sporting guns and rifles; to the expensive and irksome analysis now applied without discrimination to almost all chemical and toilet preparations, to food-stuffs and drinkables, soap, toys, &c.; and, lastly, to the exorbitant charges now made for storing merchandize which the importer is not prepared to withdraw at once from the custom-house.

The latter point is one of those especially brought to my notice by the British Chamber of Commerce, as it is one of the principal grievances of which merchants engaged in the foreign trade have to complain.

I do not think it will be possible to secure unanimity on the part of the Ambassadors in support of any further conditions, and I shared the opinion of my colleagues that it is of the highest importance to present a list of conditions which it will be in the power of the Porte to accept and comply with, so that what we hold to be our Treaty rights in the matter of being consulted prior to any augmentation of duties may be confirmed by a clear precedent, showing, if possible, that in the present instance we have induced the Porte to recognize our contention, and to make certain concessions in exchange for our consent.

I have the honour, therefore, to recommend the inclosed proposal to your Lordship as the best means of dealing, with the Turkish demand for higher duties, and of maintaining the principle that the latter cannot be imposed unilaterally.

Pending the receipt of your Lordship's reply, I am merely joining my colleagues in the collective note acknowledging the receipt of the last communication from the Porte, taking note of its contents, and informing them that we are referring to our Governments for instructions.

The Dragomans in the meanwhile will consider the list of articles liable to analysis and the conditions upon which the analysis should be made, care being taken that the interested parties are represented.

I may add that it was likewise suggested at the Ambassadors' meeting that we should insist upon the withdrawal by the Porte of the objectionable stamp tax, which forms the subject of my despatch No. 38, Commercial, of the 27th March last.

I concurred, however, with the opinion of the German Ambassador, which ultimately prevailed, that it would be impolitic to overcharge our list of conditions by bringing in the stamp tax, and it was agreed, upon my proposal, that we should address a separate note to the Ottoman Government, again pressing for the abolition of this illegal impost.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

Inclosure 1 in No. 42.

Resolution adopted at Meeting of Ambassadors, May 1, 1900.

LES Puissances seront disposées à consentir à la majoration des droits d'entrée de 8 à 11 pour cent jusqu'à l'application du Tarif conventionnel aussitôt qu'une entente soit établie sur les principes suivants :—

1. Tout article dont l'importation n'est ni expressément interdite ni limitée par les Traités doit être admis.

2. La marchandise interdite ou limitée déclarée régulièrement à la Douane devra être réexpédiée et ne peut être confisquée.

3. Il en sera de même des produits suivants :—

(*a.*) Les préparations chimiques pharmaceutiques et les spécialités pharmaceutiques.

(*b.*) Les comestibles et boissons.

(c.) Les savons joujous et couleurs qui après un examen par les experts compétents auraient été reconnus susceptibles de nuire à la santé publique ou d'abuser les acheteurs par la fraude. Dans tous les cas les expertises seront faites sans délai sous la surveillance de la Douane dans les conditions à convenir. Aucun droit ne peut être perçu comme frais d'analyse.

4. Réduction des droits de "hardié."

Inclosure 2 in No. 42.

Collective Note addressed to the Sublime Porte.

Constantinople, le 2 Mai, 1900.

LES soussignés Ambassadeurs d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie, de France, de Grande-Bretagne et d'Italie, et Chargé d'Affaires de Russie, ont eu l'honneur de recevoir la note de son Excellence M. le Ministre Impérial des Affaires Etrangères en date du 29 Avril dernier, contenant la proposition de majorer de 3 pour cent les droits de douane d'entrée actuellement en vigueur.

Les Soussignés, prenant acte de la déclaration qu'il n'entre pas dans l'intention du Gouvernement Impérial d'obtenir la majoration de 3 pour cent par un acte unilatéral, se feront un devoir de soumettre sans délai la proposition de son Excellence M. le Ministre à l'examen de leurs Gouvernements respectifs. Aussitôt que ces derniers se seront prononcés à ce sujet ils s'empresseront d'en informer son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères.

Les Soussignés saisissent, &c.

No. 43.

*Foreign Office to Colonial Office.**

Foreign Office, May 8, 1900.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to state, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that the Embassies of the Powers at Constantinople have recently been approached by the Turkish Government with a view to the provisional increase of the rate of import duty into the Ottoman Empire, and to the resumption of negotiations for the conclusion of Commercial Treaties, and for the introduction of a Specific Tariff.

The Board of Trade having been consulted in the matter their views have been embodied in the letter, of which a copy is inclosed, together with a copy of the Specific Tariff which was drawn up in 1891 after negotiations between the Embassies and the Porte, but which has never come into operation pending the conclusion of Commercial Treaties.

I am to inquire whether Mr. Secretary Chamberlain has any observations to offer in the matter as far as colonial interests are concerned, and I am to state that Lord Salisbury would be glad to receive your reply at your earliest convenience, and, if possible, without the delay which would be involved by detailed communication with the Colonial Governments.

I am, &c.

(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

No. 44.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 9. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, May 9, 1900.*

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch No. 63. Could not your Excellency, if Her Majesty's Government agree to increase of the Turkish import duties, secure categorical assurances that the construction of the four Red Sea lights shall be forth-

* Also to India Office.

with proceeded with without extra dues, and that the Sanitary dues shall be reduced in amount, reserving the question of specific rates on cottons for ulterior consideration?

I have to request your Excellency to report telegraphically how far you think that any difficulties would arise if these points (or the first only) are raised in connection with the Tariff increase which the Porte proposes to adopt.

No. 45.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 45.A. Commercial.)
Foreign Office, May 9, 1900.

Sir,

WITH reference to my telegram No. 9, Commercial, of to-day's date, I transmit herewith a copy of a letter from the Board of Trade,* containing the Board's suggestions as to the conditions on which Her Majesty's Government might consent to the increase of the import duties from 8 to 11 per cent., and to the later adoption of the draft Tarif of specific duties.

It would be especially desirable if this opportunity could be taken to come to some definite arrangement in regard to the Red Sea lights, but I leave it to your Excellency's discretion whether either that question or the proposal respecting the reduction of Sanitary dues could now be raised with advantage in connection with the Ottoman Customs Tariff; and I shall be glad to learn your Excellency's view on this point by telegram.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

P.S.—The question of obtaining satisfaction of pending claims such as those for losses of British subjects during the Armenian disturbances at Constantinople and elsewhere, should be borne in mind as a possible alternative. But it seems to me to come in second rank, in view especially of the difficulty which you apprehend in obtaining unanimous support of the Representatives of the Powers.

S.

No. 46.

Memorandum by Sir H. Bergne on Sir N. O'Conor's Telegram of May 10, 1900.

I WISH to submit some reasons why we may fairly urge the question of Red Sea lights in connection with an increase of customs dues.

1. The proposed augmentation of customs from 8 to 11 per cent. will give the Porte a large additional revenue, a great part of which will be borne by British trade.

2. Under the new Lighthouse Concession to Messrs. Collas, which, I believe, came into operation last year, the Porte takes 50 per cent. of the light dues clear, without any outgoings whatever, for twenty-five years.

3. We agreed to this new Concession only on certain conditions, viz.:—

(*a.*) Reduction of dues by 10 per cent. for first ten years and 20 per cent. for next fifteen years.

(*b.*) Construction of two new lighthouses in the Island of Crete.

(*c.*) An understanding that Messrs. Collas (the concessionnaires) made no objection to any arrangement between Great Britain and Turkey as to Red Sea lights.

We have not yet heard that either conditions, (*a.*) or (*b.*), have been fulfilled.

4. British ships pay, I believe, at least two-thirds of the light dues, and Great Britain is thus much more interested than any other Power in securing the proper lighting of the Red Sea without extra charge.

5. In view of these considerations, it would seem that we should be fully justified in making our consent to the increased Tariff, subject to an undertaking that the four lights in the Red Sea be forthwith constructed without extra charge, and this even if no other Power desired to insist on a similar condition.

It might be urged that compliance with so reasonable a request would merely be carrying out the spirit of the Arrangement with the Porte of 1896 (see note of Turkish Ambassador, 8th October, 1896, and our reply); and further, would only be giving effect

* No. 39.

to what was actually promised to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople a short time ago, when it was stated that the four lights in the Red Sea would be constructed without any fresh dues.

I feel sure that if we do not urge this point the shipping trade will attack us bitterly.

(Signed) H. G. BERGNE.

Foreign Office, May 11, 1900.

No. 47.

*Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.**—*(Received May* 10.)

(No. 19. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Constantinople, May* 10, 1900.

PROPOSED increase of import duties.

Your Lordship's telegram No. 9, Commercial, of yesterday.

The importance of establishing the principle that no customs duties shall be levied except with the previous consent of the Powers, and the necessity of not raising fresh difficulties seemed so urgent to the Ambassadors that they decided to restrict the subject of their demands to purely customs-house questions; and even a proposal to include the abolition of the stamp tax was rejected.

I feel also that my colleagues would not adopt any suggestion regarding the Red Sea lights, and it would seem inopportune at the present moment, when the appearance of plague is reported from Smyrna, to make any demand for the reduction of Sanitary dues. The best course, I think, is that our proposals should be sanctioned.

No. 48.

Colonial Office to Foreign Office.—*(Received May* 11.)

Sir, *Downing Street, May* 10, 1900.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Chamberlain to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant respecting the proposals of the Turkish Government to increase provisionally the rate of import duty into the Ottoman Empire and to resume negotiations for the conclusion of Commercial Treaties and for the introduction of a Specific Tariff.

2. In reply, I am to request that you will inform the Marquess of Salisbury that, with the exception of Cyprus, whose interests might be seriously affected, there does not appear to be any Colony or Protectorate administered by this Department whose trade with Turkey forms any large part of its total trade, and that, in the absence of more exact information as to the changes proposed in the Tariff, Mr. Chamberlain has, at present, no further observations to offer.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. BERTRAM COX.

No. 49.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 46. Commercial.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, May* 11, 1900.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatches Nos. 45, 46, and 52 of the 6th, 7th, and 12th ultimo respectively, relative to the increased customs duties which the Turkish Government propose to levy in the Ottoman Empire.

* Copy to India Office, Colonial Office, and Board of Trade, May 12, 1900.

Your Excellency's proceedings as reported therein are approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 50.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 10. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, May* 13, 1900.

WITH reference to your Commercial telegram of the 10th instant. The immediate construction of the four lights in the Red Sea is stated by the French Ambassador here to have been already decided upon. He also states that an engineer was deputed to make preparatory surveys some time ago. I have to request that you will endeavour to ascertain how this is.

No. 51.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—*(Received May* 14.)

(No. 67. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, May* 8, 1900.

WITH reference to your Lordship's Commercial despatches No. 9 of the 16th February and No. 38 of the 14th April, I have the honour to inclose a Memorandum showing briefly the main points which were at issue between the British and Ottoman Delegates when the negotiations for a Commercial Treaty were suspended, together with eleven separate Memoranda giving an outline of the history and present position of each of the Articles of the draft Treaty which the Ottoman Council of Ministers declined to accept in their present form.

A reference to Sir Clare Ford's Commercial despatches No. 46 of the 18th and No. 56 of the 24th April, 1893, will show that the remaining Articles called for no observation on the part of the Council of Ministers to whom all the Articles signed *ad referendum* had been submitted by the Ottoman Delegates.

In the absence of the Commercial Attaché I desired Mr. de Bunsen to draw up the inclosed papers. Mr. Wenkley, whom I am expecting back in the course of the next week or two, will follow them up with the observations and suggestions as to the best course to pursue under present circumstances which are called for in the first of the two above-mentioned despatches from your Lordship.

I may mention that the French negotiation, which formed the subject of my despatch No. 13, Commercial, of the 1st February, was continued on M. Constans' return from Paris some six weeks ago, but that it has been since suspended, pending a settlement with the Porte in the matter of the proposed temporary increase of the 8 per cent. *ad valorem* duties on imports. When that question has been dealt with, the subject of the new Commercial Treaties will doubtless claim attention.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

Inclosure 1 in No. 51.

Memorandum by Mr. de Bunsen.

THE accompanying eleven Memoranda show the state of our negotiations with Turkey for a Commercial Treaty as regards each of the Articles which were not accepted as satisfactory by the Ottoman Council of Ministers, viz., Articles II, III, IV, IX, X, XIV, XVI, XVIII, XXI–XXV, XXVI, XXVII. Sir C. Ford, No. 56, Commercial, April 24, 1893.

It will be seen that the most important questions at issue are the following:—

Articles II, III, and XIV. Can we accept the Turkish demand for liberty to impose municipal taxes, octroi dues and dues on account of public works, such as docks, quays, &c., for *a service rendered*, without previously coming to an arrangement with the Powers concerned? Messrs. Wrench and Law considered that our

interests were sufficiently protected by the text of Article XIV as it stands; but Sir W. White differed. The point has been conceded to Turkey by the German Treaty and the draft French Treaty.

Article X on exemptions from duty. A stipulation is required placing British hospitals, schools, &c., on the same footing as those of France and Italy, as regards free imports. Are we prepared to surrender certain privileges hitherto enjoyed by the Diplomatic and Consular bodies?

Article XVI. Coasting trade. The conditions formulated by Lord Salisbury have not yet been submitted.

Sublime Porte, February 7, 1897. Articles IX (declaration) and XXI–XXV inclusive. "Règlement Douanier." We must satisfy ourselves that the amendments which the Porte state they have made in the Règlement are sufficient, in which case the above Articles could perhaps be omitted from the Treaty, or at least considerably abbreviated.

Article XXVI. Application of Treaty to Egypt and Bulgaria. Is there still a danger that unfriendly Powers will claim the benefit of the more favourable Turkish Tariff in those countries?

Article XXVII. Survival of Capitulations. Is the corresponding Russian Article still to be our model, coupled with a note defining our view of the question?

Articles IV and XVIII on exports and monopolies seem to offer no great difficulty.

(Signed) M. DE BUNSEN.

May 5, 1896.

Inclosure 2 in No. 51.

Memorandum No. 1.

ARTICLE II.—*Reciprocal Most-favoured-nation Treatment and National Treatment for Imports, Exports, Transit, Warehousing, Interior Commerce, &c.*

Sir C. Ford, No. 48, Commercial, April 18, 1893. THIS Article was signed *ad referendum* on the 12th April, 1890. Subsequently certain additions were made, as printed in italics, in our corrected copy of the draft Treaty. The Ottoman Delegates were ready to sign the additions, but the British Delegates deferred doing so pending settlement of the question of municipal taxes arising out of paragraph 3. As to this, we demanded the insertion of a clause declaring that no such taxes could be imposed without our consent. The Ottoman Delegates refused, but they were prepared to recommend the Porte to state, in a note, that naturally no new taxes or imposts would be levied on British subjects or goods without asking unofficially the consent of the British Government, as had been the practice heretofore.

Sir C. Ford, No. 58, Commercial, April 27, 1893. Messrs. Wrench and Block were to consult the other European Delegates as to the terms of the note. The result was a Memorandum, which the Ottoman Delegates rejected. They regarded more favorably a Declaration proposed by the Austrian Delegates, and offered to recommend the Porte to draw up a note founded upon it. No further advance was made with the question.

Sir W. White, No. 66, Commercial, April 1, 1891. When the additions to the signed Article were made the Ottoman Delegates demanded the suppression of the words "les plus favorisés" after "les nationaux" at the end of the second paragraph. Lord Salisbury instructed Sir W. White that the words must stand. Finally, the Ottoman Delegates agreed to retain them, but our Delegates still put off signing the amended Article, and Sir C. Ford instructed them to obtain an assurance before they did so that neither Article II nor III could be interpreted into any admission that any Turkish authority possessed the right of imposing new regulations or taxes without the previous consent of Her Majesty's Embassy.

Foreign Office, No. 51, Commercial, April 27, 1891. Sir C. Ford, No. 135, Commercial, November 7, 1892. Sir W. White, No. 56, Commercial, April 1, 1891. The objection of the Ottoman Delegates to the words in question was that they might prevent the Ottoman Government, if literally interpreted, from granting a concession for a railway, gasworks, waterworks, a slaughter-house, or even to give a postal contract to a line of steamers, without every foreigner who chose claiming a right to share in the concession or privilege. Lord Salisbury thought this difficulty might be got over by signing a Declaration stating to what concessions the Article did not apply, but it was important to maintain the claim on behalf of British vessels for the same rights to navigate the bays and rivers of the Ottoman Empire as are conceded by Turkey to any other nation.

Sublime Porte, August 11, 1896. Although, as stated above, the Ottoman Delegates consented in the end to retain the words "les plus favorisés," the Porte stated five years later in a note that they still desired to suppress them, and that if we still insisted on retaining them a Declaration would be necessary making it clear that "on ne pourra en aucun cas faire bénéficier les Anglais établis en Turquie de certaines immunités spéciales dont jouissent depuis longtemps quelques anciennes familles privilégiées, ni de celles qui pourraient être accordées par Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan à des particuliers."

In Article II, therefore, two questions are still unsettled, viz., the question of municipal and similar taxes requiring the consent of the Embassy, and the question of foreigners enjoying the same privileges in every branch of trade, commerce, and navigation as the most-favoured Ottoman subjects.

The corresponding Article in the German Treaty of 1890 is No. VI, which merely stipulates for most-favoured-nation treatment as regards exports, imports, transit, and storage. It does not cover the unsettled points in our Article II.

Inclosure 3 in No. 51.

Memorandum No. 2.

ARTICLE III.—*Import Duty not to exceed Tariff: payable in Gold or Silver. Certain articles liable to Octroi.*

THIS Article was initialled by our Delegates, leaving a blank space in the last paragraph for the list of articles liable to octroi. The Ottoman Delegates urged that the entire list should be inserted, as it is in the German Treaty, viz.:—

Wine.	Live stock.
Spirits.	Fuel.
Cigarette paper.	Playing cards.
Sugar.	Fruit.
Coffee.	Vegetables.
Flour.	

and that after fuel we should add the words "except coal and coke," those being the only articles in the list materially affecting British imports. They argued that there was no harm in inserting the entire list, as we should, of course, benefit by any excision made in the Treaties with other Powers. Our Delegates, on the other hand, wished to insert only those articles which remained after striking out those which had been given up in the negotiations with other Powers, viz.:—

Spirits.	Coffee.
Wine (except the finer qualities).	Fuel (except coal and coke).

The French draft Treaty mentions only:—

Spirits.	Firewood.
Coffee.	Charcoal.

Finally, the point was reserved, and the Article initialled leaving a blank space to be filled in eventually.

Sir C. Ford, No. 49, Commercial, April 18, 1893. Sir C. Ford was of opinion that the Article might be signed *ad referendum* in this form, if only he could obtain a satisfactory assurance from the Porte that no octroi dues would be levied without our consent.

Sir W. White to Safvet Pasha, September 24, 1891. The clause which Sir W. White thought necessary to secure the above object, in Articles 2 and 3, was as follows:—

"La Sublime Porte s'engage en outre à ne soumettre les articles de fabrication ou de provenance Britannique importés dans l'Empire Ottoman à des droits d'entrée excédant ceux indiqués dans le tarif ci-annexé et qui fait partie intégrante du présent Traité, ni à aucun autre droit ou charge, sous quelque dénomination et au profit de qui que ce soit."

Sir C. Ford, No. 48, Commercial, April 18, 1893. The Ottoman Delegates would go no further than to offer to recommend the Porte to give a satisfactory assurance on this point by means of a note. But the terms of the note were never agreed upon, and the Article remained unsigned.

The corresponding Article V in the German Treaty, as stated above, gives a list of eleven articles liable to an octroi tax or surtax, and it specifies the maximum chargeable in this respect on sugar and flour.

Inclosure 4 in No. 51.

Memorandum No. 3.

ARTICLE IV.—*Exports to be Transported to place of Exportation. No Export Dues. Proof required before Export that Native Produce has paid Internal Taxes.*

Sir C. Ford, No. 39, Commercial April 27, 1893.

THIS Article was signed *ad referendum*, but the Ottoman Delegates subsequently expressed a wish to alter the second paragraph in the sense that proof of the payment of internal taxes should be given at the place of export, and not, as the Article stands, at the place of production.

The British Delegates held the point in reserve pending further explanations which were promised by the Ottoman Delegates.

The point is conceded in the French draft Treaty, Article III. The corresponding German Article V merely stipulates most-favoured-nation treatment for exports, and that the duty shall not exceed 1 per cent. *ad valorem*. The French like the English draft, suppresses the export duty altogether, and a reference to the sixth paragraph of Saïd Pasha's note to Sir W. White of the 17th March, 1890, will show that the abolition of the export duties was at that date contemplated by the Ottoman Government, to take effect apparently when the new Treaty came into force. It was likewise one of the conditions attached by Mr. Wrench to his acceptance of the specific tarif on the 9th July, 1885.

As the Article stands the only difficulty is as to the place where proof shall be given in respect of native produce, that the tithe and similar taxes have been defrayed.

Inclosure 5 in No. 51.

Memorandum No. 4.

ARTICLE IX.—*Establishment of Bonded Warehouses. Tariff and Conditions for Bonding of Goods.*

SIGNED *ad referendum* and accepted by Council of Ministers except the Declaration attached, in the 4th and 5th paragraphs of which the Council desired changes to be made.

Paragraph 4 requires payment of the full storage charge if, after declaring that the deposited bales or cases would not be opened, and profiting by the 25 per cent. reduction allowed on such Declaration, the owner nevertheless does open them.

Paragraph 5 fixes charge for visiting goods stored on private premises.

The British Delegates regarded these points as belonging rather to the "Règlement Douanier" than to the Treaty, and they were consequently reserved until the "Règlement Douanier" should come up for discussion.

Article XIII in the German Treaty is in similar terms, but no Declaration is attached. In the French Draft Treaty Article XII, all charges for bonding goods are reserved for settlement in the "Règlement Douanier."

In the Turkish note of the 11th August, 1896, to Mr. Herbert, the Porte maintains its objections to the Declaration attached to our Article IX. It states that the facilities asked for the storage of cheap goods are not practicable. Goods stored on the understanding that they would not be visited or opened would be piled up, and it would be troublesome and expensive to take them down. As regards cheap goods of heavy weight, the Ottoman Customs would lower the price as much as possible, but it could not be fixed beforehand in the Treaty.

Inclosure 6 in No. 51.

Memorandum No. 5.

ARTICLE X.—*Special Exemptions from Import Duty.*

SIGNED *ad referendum*, except as regards two alterations, printed marginally, which the Delegates on either side saw no objection to.

The exceptions are as follows:—

1. Samples.
2. Travelling effects.
3. Ships' provisions, including tobacco and salt.
4. Ships' coal.
5. Effects for—
   - Consuls-General: up to duty value of 2,500 piastres.
   - Consuls, " " 2,000 "
   - Vice-Consuls, " " 1,000 "
6. Effects of Diplomatic and Consular officials on first taking up their residence
7. Effects of—
   - Secretary of Embassy, up to duty value of 2,500 piastres.
   - Secretaries, " "
   - 1st and 2nd Dragoman, " "
   - Attachés, " "

Chiefs of Missions "stationnaire" and non-ship-of-war retain privilege under international law.

The last paragraph of this Article was altered under instructions from Lord Salisbury, to include in its privileges the gun-boat stationed at Bagdad. Instead of "les bâtiments de guerre de passage" the proposed new text ran, "les bâtiments de guerre de Sa Majesté qui se trouveraient dans les autres ports de l'Empire Ottoman." Sir C. Ford, No. 51, Commercial, April 18, 1893.

The Ottoman Delegates apparently concurred; but this alteration, like the alteration of paragraph 5, was never actually signed *ad referendum*, the British Delegates being still in doubt as to the larger question which had been raised, viz., whether it would not be better to omit Article X from the Treaty altogether. Sir C. Ford, No. 157, Commercial, December 1, 1892.

This suggestion was made in the Memorandum by Mr. Block of the 16th November, 1896, pointing out that our draft Article gives up a number of privileges hitherto enjoyed by us without question. Thus as regards the free import of goods for our churches, schools, and hospitals we should have to rely on Articles in the Italian and Austrian draft Treaties which were specially framed to maintain the privileges of Austrian and Italian institutions in this country bearing little resemblance to our own; whereas at present the free entry of our hospital medicines, &c., was in practice, and by custom generally conceded to us. Our draft Article makes no mention of churches, schools, and hospitals. The French and Austrian drafts provide for the free entry of objects of worship and goods consigned to convents, provided that the latter do not exceed a duty value of 400 piastres per head, or 4,800 per convent. Foreign Office, No. 119, Commercial, December 19, 1892.

The Italian draft exempts "Articles de Bureau" for the Italian Government schools in Turkey, up to a specified amount, and the Italian hospital at Constantinople is also specially privileged.

The difficulty is that our hospitals, &c., are neither Government nor charitable institutions, like those of other countries in Turkey. Our Delegates did not see their way, therefore, to obtain a clause similar to those referred to above as having been inserted in some of the other draft Treaties, and it remains doubtful how far British hospitals would be able to secure equal privileges by most-favoured-nation treatment.

Sir A. Nicholson was instructed that care should be taken before finally signing the most-favoured-nation Article to insert some word or words which would embrace such a case as this, and place the matter beyond doubt. But this was never done. Foreign Office, No. 39, Commercial, July 21, 1893.

As regards diplomatic and consular privileges Mr. Block's Memorandum shows that the texts adopted in the Articles on exemptions from duty in the various drafts and in the German Treaty involve the relinquishment of many privileges. Thus under the Regulations communicated to Her Majesty's Embassy in Ali Pasha's

note of the 14th July, 1869, Consul-Generals, Consuls, and Vice-Consuls may import for their personal use an unrestricted quantity of goods free of duty and free of search and inspection at the custom-house. All Secretaries and Attachés enjoy similar privileges. But paragraphs 5 and 7 of our draft Article X restrict the amounts which may be imported by Diplomatic and Consular officers, exclude a number of officials, such as all Dragomans except the first and second, all Assistants, the Assistant Judge and others, and involve the necessity of submitting every consignment to the inspection of the custom-house.

Rather than abandon privileges and facilities so long enjoyed without question Mr. Block reported that the Russian Government had declined to draw up any Article on exemptions, preferring to rely on the rights secured to them by the Capitulations and ancient custom, and he submitted that we should consider whether it would not be well to pursue a similar course.

Foreign Office, No. 119, Commercial, December 9, 1892.

Sir C. Ford was instructed that "if Her Majesty's Government cannot elicit a satisfactory assurance from the Porte, a declaration must be made that it is understood that it is not intended to interfere with the ancient privileges conceded by the Ottoman Government."

His Excellency was also asked for his opinion whether, on the whole, it may not be best to follow the Russian example. In his despatch No. 51, Commercial, of the 18th April, 1893, he explained that the British Delegates had hesitated to withdraw the entire Article as suggested, inasmuch as they had secured important stipulations in the concluding paragraph already referred to relating to privileges appertaining to men-of-war, and in paragraphs 3 and 4 relating to ships' coal and stores.

The point was accordingly reserved to be brought up, if it should be still thought advisable when the Treaty came to be considered as a whole.

In their note of the 11th August, 1896, the Porte refers to this Article, and states that it still awaits the text of the modifications promised by Her Majesty's Embassy. But it does not appear from the printed records that any fresh text was promised or even under consideration.

Inclosure 7 in No. 51.

Memorandum No. 6.

ARTICLE XIV.—*Most-favoured-nation and National Treatment as regards Dues for Ports, Tonnage, Docks, Quays, &c.*

THE Article was signed *ad referendum* on the 11th June, 1890, and again, in a new form, in March 1891 (see Sir W. White's No. 34, Commercial, of the 13th March, 1891).

Sir W. White, No. 51, Commercial, Confidential, April 1, 1891.

At the request of the Austrian Embassy, however, Sir W. White reopened the question and began to press for a modification of the Article by the insertion of a clause which would prevent the Ottoman Government from imposing any fresh dues whatever without our consent.

Messrs. Wrench and Law were of opinion that our interests were sufficiently protected by the following stipulations which are embodied in the text of the Article:—

1. That no new or increased dues can be levied by any other authority than by a direct Decree of the Sublime Porte.

2. That no new or increased dues can be levied except for the purpose of paying for definite services rendered.

3. That a minimum of three months' notice must be given officially before any Decree establishing new or increased dues can be put into force.

Lord Salisbury, No. 58, Commercial, May 9, 1891.

Sir W. White thought something more was required, and after reference home, he was sent for his guidance a Board of Trade letter stating that "the Board would be glad if it were found practicable to provide in the Treaty for the consent of this country being obtained . . . , before any fresh dues are imposed. If, however, this cannot be arranged, they think that provision should at least be made for the annual publication of accounts, and for the examination of all tariffs of dues at regular intervals, say every five years, with a view to their revision if they are found to be in excess of the requirements of the service in respect of which they are levied."

The British Delegates repeatedly pressed for the desired guarantee, but their Ottoman colleagues declared that their Government would resist to the utmost any such restriction on their freedom of action. Although the Porte was prepared to consult Her Majesty's Embassy whenever it was proposed to augment existing dues or to create new ones, and would not object, when certain important innovations were contemplated, to write a note to the Embassy, as was done with regard to the quays of Constantinople in 1880 by Savas Pasha to the Austrian Ambassador; yet they would never bind themselves to any such obligation in an International Agreement, nor even sign a separate declaration to that effect.

Sir C. Ford, No. 65, Commercial, June 20, 1892.

The Ottoman Delegates maintained this attitude to the end. It is true that in April 1893 they expressed their willingness to recommend the Porte to give the required assurances in a note to the Embassy. But, when further pressed, they somewhat receded from this concession, and confined themselves to an offer to submit the demands of Her Majesty's Government on this Article, and on Articles II and III which involve the same principle, again to the Council of Ministers. They held out no hope, however, that the Porte would modify their views, and the last Turkish note which has been received on the subject of these negotiations, viz., 11th August, 1896, reiterates the declaration that the Ottoman Government cannot agree to make port, tonnage, dock, quay, and similar dues subordinate to a previous agreement with England. The note adds that there can be no danger of abuse, inasmuch as it is agreed that the dues must be for a service rendered.

Sir C. Ford, No. 48, Commercial, April 18, 1893.

Sir C. Ford, No. 58, Commercial, April 27, 1893.

Inclosure 8 in No. 51.

Memorandum No. 7.

ARTICLE XVI.—*Coasting Trade.*

(Signed *ad referendum* March 6, 1891.)

IT allows—

1. "Cabotage" between two Turkish ports, except in the Sea of Marmora and the Straits and in inclosed territorial waters, such as the "Gulf of Smyrna, &c."

2. Salvage operations everywhere.

3. Towage only in connection with salvage, and to assist vessels to and from their moorings in port.

The prohibition of "cabotage" in the Sea of Marmora and the Straits does not extend to vessels plying between Constantinople and a foreign port. These may continue as before to touch at the Dardanelles and Marmora stations.

Navigation of lakes and rivers reserved to Turkey, except up to 15 miles from the sea, and except Bussorah.

Most-favoured-nation treatment for "cabotage."

Two *pro-memoria* are attached, one specifying Messrs. Lynch's privileges, which are reserved, and the other providing for the purchase of the four British tugs plying in the Marmora.

It will be seen that our draft Article recognizes the distinction drawn by the Porte between the "grand cabotage"—our right to participate in which is not challenged—and the "petit cabotage," as to which we are to be excluded from the Straits, the Sea of Marmora, and inclosed territorial waters, such as "the Gulf of Smyrna, &c.," though not from other points of the Turkish coast-line.

We give up towage, except in connection with salvage and helping ships to and from their moorings.

Lord Salisbury, No. 58, Commercial, June 21, 1892.

The conditions under which Her Majesty's Government were prepared to accept the above Article are the following:—

1. That the owners of the present tugs shall be compensated.

2. That restrictions on the "petit cabotage" be enforced against all foreigners alike.

3. A definite and written Agreement in regard to Messrs. Lynch's steamers.

4. Towage in the Straits to be settled in the sense of suggestions made in Mr. Wrench's Memorandum. (Inclosure 7 in Sir C. Ford's No. 31, Commercial, of the 6th April, 1892.)

5. That in defining the portions of the coast reserved to "cabotage" under the Turkish flag, the phrase "et cetera" shall be explained as applying only to territorial waters (*i.e.*, waters within 3 miles of the coast) and to bays which do not exceed 10 miles across at their mouth, as well as to Smyrna (which exceeds 10 miles). The object is to keep the Gulf of Salonica open to British existing trade.

6. Omit "pendant la durée du présent Traité," which words might be held to imply that when the Treaty expires the rights of British shipping in respect of "cabotage," salvage, &c., would disappear. If necessary, insert words reserving most-favoured-nation treatment for ever.

Sir C. Ford, No. 51, Commercial, April 18, 1893.

These conditions, however, were never submitted to the Ottoman Delegates. At the meeting of the 5th April, 1893, the latter stated that the Council of Ministers had raised objections to paragraph 4 (navigation of rivers) and to the *pro-memoria* respecting Messrs. Lynch's steamers. They were informed that the Article as it stood, together with its two *pro-memoria*, formed one indivisible whole, and contained the only conditions on which any modifications of the views held as to the rights of Her Majesty's Government to coasting trade in Turkish waters could be entertained. It was thought better to keep the conditions formulated by Her Majesty's Government in reserve till the Treaty could be considered as a whole.

In the Porte's note of the 11th August, 1896, it is remarked that this Article was signed by the Delegates with the approval of Her Majesty's Government, but that the Porte would be prepared to discuss the "Règlement les droits qui seraient reconnus être acquis."

The German Treaty has no "cabotage" Article, relying on most-favoured-nation treatment. The French draft Treaty has an Article similar to our Article XVI (without the *pro-memorial*), but adding that in France "cabotage" is subject to French law. Paragraph 2 of the French Protocol provides that special permits for "cabotage," &c., in Marmora and Straits shall not favour any particular flag.

Inclosure 9 in No. 51.

Memorandum No. 8.

ARTICLE XVIII.—*Monopolies.*

(Signed *ad referendum* March 1891.)

BESIDES the old monopolies on salt and tobacco no new monopolies are to be created, except on—

Cigarette paper.
Petroleum.

The German Treaty of 1890 allows two more, viz.:

Matches.
Playing cards.

The French draft Treaty has cut out all new monopolies but cigarette paper.

There was no difficulty over the question of what articles might be made monopolies, as none of those brought forward by Turkey are imported in large quantities from England. But a point was raised by the British Delegates which was specially reserved when the Article was signed *ad referendum*, and which still remains unsettled.

The British Delegates pointed out that if the engagements made in this Article were to hold good only "pendant la durée du présent Traité. Turkey would claim full liberty when the Treaty expired to set up any monopolies she chose. It was true that our Treaty of 1838 prohibited monopolies, but though we regard that Treaty as forming an appendix to the Capitulations, and therefore as binding for ever Turkey does not so regard it, and would certainly refuse to be bound by it.

On the 9th June, 1892, the Ottoman Delegates consented to omit the phrase, considering that the omission would not alter the sense of the paragraph in which it occurred, as at the expiration of the Treaty all its provisions would disappear.

The Council of Ministers, however, reinserted the words, and also raised objections to the Declaration attached to the Article, which stipulates in its last paragraph that the warehousing of coal is to remain free from monopoly, as in the past.

Sir C. Ford, No. 60, Commercial, April 27, 1892.

The Ottoman Delegates were persuaded that this latter objection was founded on a misapprehension, and pledged themselves to endeavour to persuade the Council to leave the Declaration as it stood.

The Turkish note of the 11th August, 1896, states that further discussion is necessary on this Article, as the Porte wishes to add more monopolies. At that time there was a question of granting a petroleum monopoly to a Russian Company, but the Porte were clearly informed, by direction of the Secretary of State, that Her Majesty's Government would not consent to a monopoly of this kind, which would pervert or restrict the freedom of international trade.

Foreign Office, No. 38, Commercial, June 17, 1896.

To Sublime Porte, July 10, 1896.

Inclosure 10 in No. 51.

Memorandum No. 9.

ARTICLE XXI. Customs formalities. Ships' manifests.
Article XXII. Customs formalities. Declaration for re-exchandize.
Article XXIII. Customs formalities. Visit and search on board British vessels.
Article XXIV. Customs formalities. Contraband and fines.
Article XXV. Customs formalities. Special Commission for settling disputes.

The first three only were signed *ad referendum*. These five Articles may be considered together. They were intended to define and restrict the powers of the Turkish Custom-house in respect of Custom-formalities.

In the earliest draft of a new Commercial Treaty drawn up by the Porte in the summer of 1885 mention is already made of a proposed "Règlement Douanier Ottoman" for the guidance of the Turkish Custom-house. In sending instructions to the British Delegates with a view to the elaboration of a more satisfactory draft Treaty, Lord Salisbury laid down that, "With respect to the 'Règlement Douanier Ottoman,' a stipulation is necessary that it shall be settled in consultation with foreign Representatives, and contain reasonable provisions for the protection of foreign trade, and to check arbitrary proceedings on the part of the Ottoman Customs."

Lord Salisbury, No. 13, Commercial, February 25, 1886.

In July 1890 the Ottoman Delegates submitted to their British colleagues a new "Règlement Douanier," as accepted with trifling modifications by the Germans. Though it was avowedly based on the Egyptian Customs Regulations, Messrs. Law and Wrench regarded it as inacceptable without a distinct understanding that fines and other punishments for infraction of the Regulations shall be fixed by international Agreement, and that disputes between merchants and the Customs authorities settled by means of a Committee of experts.

Mr. Fane, No. 135, Commercial, Confidential, July 15, 1890.

In the discussions which ensued, Turkey maintained that Customs Regulations were a matter of internal administration, not requiring any consultation with foreign Powers. The British Delegates held, on the contrary, that as Turkey is prevented by the Capitulations from exercising the powers necessary for an efficient Customs service, an International Agreement is necessary to enable her to assume those powers.

Mr. Law to Foreign Office, October 9, 1890.

To harmonize these opposite contentions the German Treaty is completed by a Protocol, paragraph 2 of which declares that though the drawing up of the "Règlement Douanier" is a matter appertaining to the Ottoman Administration, it is open to the German Embassy to point out any clause in the "Règlement" which may be in contradiction with the principles contained in the Treaty, the Imperial Government undertaking to modify those clauses accordingly.

The British Delegates endeavoured in vain to improve on this Declaration by means of an engagement that Turkey would modify not only the clauses found to be inconsistent with the principles contained in the Treaty, but also the clauses "qui ne découleraient pas" from those principles. This annulment was steadily resisted, and finally we accepted a form of Declaration virtually identical with the German form.

Sir W. White, No. 21, Commercial, February 20, 1891.

Board of Trade to Foreign Office, October 24, 1890.

The Board of Trade had previously agreed that such a Declaration would be a sufficient protection, provided Turkey could be induced to accept a Committee of experts for the settlement of cases of dispute.

Meanwhile the "Règlement Dounier" controversy had led to a suspension of the meetings of Delegates from the 11th December, 1886, to the 2nd April, 1890. They were resumed without any understanding about the Committee of experts. Article XXV of our draft, which deals with this part of the subject, was never signed, and the point was left to be settled when the text of the Règlement came under discussion.

Sir W. White, No. 84, Commercial, June 30, 1891.

Sir W. White, No. 112, Commercial, September 29, 1891.

Sir W. White, No. 139, Commercial, December 31, 1891.

Sir C. Ford, No. 31, Commercial, April 6, 1892 (Inclosure 10).

So far the only text was the one submitted to our Delegates in July 1890. The British and Russian Delegates, however, set to work and elaborated between them an amended "Règlement Dounier," which was communicated to the Turkish Customs. The latter made no sign of accepting the amendments, and a few months later the original uncorrected text, with slight variations, was published in the Constantinople press.

Sir W. White protested, declaring that negotiations could not be resumed till this obstacle was removed. Partial satisfaction was given in the course of the parallel negotiation with the Russian and French Delegates, who secured valuable stipulations providing that no guardians should be placed on board their ships, and that any search for contraband should be conducted by the Consular authority. The British negotiations were resumed on the strength of these concessions in June 1892. But it was felt that the Règlement, even as amended by the British and Russian Delegates, would no longer suffice. It must be completed by the addition of the new Russian and French stipulations, and of others suggested by the British Chamber of Commerce in Constantinople.

Sir C. Ford, No. 138, Commercial, November 7, 1892.

Finally, Sir C. Ford proposed that the "Règlement Dounier" should be put into shape by a Joint Commission of all the foreign Delegates. A counter-draft was accordingly drawn up by the Delegates of Great Britain, Austria, France, Italy and Russia.

At the request of Artin Pasha it was communicated in May 1891 unofficially to the Director of Customs, and it is stated in the Turkish note of the 7th February, 1897, that the Department of Indirect Contributions "s'est efforcé d'amender, en conformité des *desiderata* qui lui ont été formulés, les dispositions du nouveau Règlement Dounier."

No amended copy, however, was received.

The "Règlement Dounier" has thus assumed various forms; first, the original Turkish text; second, the British and Russian amendments; third, the text as published in the newspapers; fourth, the counter-draft of the foreign Delegates; and, fifth, the text as finally amended in accordance with the *desiderata* of the counter-draft.

Until this final text has been examined and found acceptable it cannot be said that an agreement on this question has been reached. Sir A. Nicholson stated, in a note to Said Pasha, dated the 11th September, 1893, that such an agreement is essential prior to the signing of the Articles which govern the provisions of the Règlement, viz., Articles XXI to XXV inclusive of our draft Treaty.

As stated above, the Germans accepted the original Turkish text. The draft French Treaty contains a Declaration similar to the German and British one, and an Article (No. XXIII) providing for a Commission of Experts to settle disputes, and that penalties in the "Règlement Dounier" may be appealed against in the competent Commercial Court.

Inclosure 11 in No. 51.

Memorandum No. 10.

ARTICLE XXVI.—*Application of Treaty to Egypt, Bulgaria, &c.*

THE text submitted by the Ottoman Delegates is that embodied in Article XXII of the German Treaty. It provides that the Treaty shall have force throughout the Sultan's dominions in Europe, Asia, and Africa. Any discrepancy between the

Tariffs of Egypt and Bulgaria and that of Turkey shall be notified to Turkey, and goods having paid duty in Egypt and Bulgaria shall, on importation into Turkey, make good any excess in the Turkish Tariff over the duty charged in those countries.

Our Article was reserved for discussion between the Ambassador and the Ottoman Foreign Minister, and no British text was presented.

The difficulty, as pointed out by Mr. Bertie, was that "by signing such an Article, we might be held to admit that, in the absence of special Commercial Conventions with Bulgaria and Egypt, a foreign Power can claim the execution in Bulgaria and Egypt of a Commercial Treaty between such Power and the Porte."

Sir W. White shared this view, and his apprehensions were confirmed in January 1891 by the Russian Consul-General in Egypt, who declared "that Egypt is bound by whatever arrangements the Porte makes with Russia, in the absence of any special Convention being concluded between Russia and Egypt."

The danger was that if, at any time, the Egyptian or Bulgarian Tariffs should be higher than that of Turkey, foreign Powers having no Conventions with the former countries might claim the application in them of the more favourable Turkish Tariff.

Lord Salisbury, No. 58, Commercial, June 21, 1892.

Lord Salisbury stated, in his last instruction on the subject, that the best course will be to omit this Article from the Treaty. Mr. Wrench was so instructed, but the Ottoman Delegates pointed out that it would be impossible to omit all reference to the provinces of the Ottoman dominions to which the Treaty applied, when they had accepted our Article XXVIII in which its application to the British dominions is defined.

Sir C. Ford, No. 140, Commercial, November 7, 1892.

No further progress was made with the question, and it remains to be considered whether the dangers apprehended by Sir W. White still exist.

Inclosure 12 in No. 51.

Memorandum No. 11.

ARTICLE XXVII.—*Revival of Ancient Treaties.*

"TOUS les droits, privilèges, et immunités acquis par la Grande-Bretagne et la Turquie en vertu des Traités et stipulations antérieurs sont confirmés, la présente Convention n'ayant pour objet que de modifier pour le temps de sa durée certaines clauses des dites Traités et stipulations."

Sir W. White, No. 47, Commercial, April 1, 1891.

This draft was sanctioned by Lord Salisbury, and proposed by the British Delegates on the 23rd March, 1891, but rejected by the Ottoman Delegates who put in a counter-draft.

Lord Salisbury, No. 39, Commercial, April 27, 1891.

Our object was to secure that the Capitulations shall be kept in force, to revive (so far as their provisions may be modified by the new Treaty) upon the termination of the Treaty in negotiation.

The Turkish counter-draft admits only of the continuance in force of that portion of the ancient Treaties which is unaffected by the stipulations of the new Treaty, and excludes the revival of the portion modified by the new Treaty.

A similar conflict of views arose over the same point in the negotiation between Turkey and several of the other Powers, and despairing of a satisfactory solution, Sir C. Ford submitted in his despatch No. 139, Commercial, of the 7th November, 1892, a proposal made by Messrs. Wrench and Block to the effect that Article XXVII should be omitted altogether from our Treaty; that we should rely, so long as the Treaty remained in force, on the corresponding Articles accepted by other Powers; and that the question of the subsequent survival of the ancient Treaties should be reserved until the new Treaty was on the eve of expiring.

Lord Rosebery, No. 117, Commercial, December 19, 1892.

Lord Rosebery replied that Her Majesty's Government preferred that a distinct stipulation in regard to this question should be contained in the British Treaty, rather than that British rights should be dependent, under a most-favoured-nation clause, on the engagements contained in Treaties between the Porte and other Powers.

They were also in favour of concerted action on this question by the Representatives of the different Powers, and they considered that the proposed Rusian Article, with its accompanying note, presented a way, sufficiently satisfactory, of dealing with the difficulty.

The Russian Article was as follows:—

"Tous les droits, privilèges, et immunités conférés par la Russie et la Turquie réciproquement en vertu des stipulations des Traités antérieurs sont confirmés, à l'exception des clauses que le présent Traité a pour objet de modifier."

It was to be accompanied by a note postponing the discussion of the question of the survival of the ancient Treaties on the expiration of the Treaty in negotiation until the near approach of that contingency.

Sir C. Ford: No. 56, Commercial, April 24, 1893.

Both Sir W. White and Sir C. Ford reserved Article XXVII for personal discussion with the Ottoman Foreign Minister.

No. 52.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received May 14.)

(No. 20. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Constantinople, May 14, 1900.*

WITH reference to the subject of your Lordship's telegram No. 10, Commercial, of yesterday, I learn from the Minister for Foreign Affairs that the construction of the four lighthouses has been commenced. It has been decided by the Council of Ministers that no fresh dues will be imposed, but an effort to get dues for the maintenance of the personnel is still being made by the Minister of Marine.

I have recalled Tewfik Pasha's attention to my note of the 24th March last.

No. 53.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 15.)

Sir, *India Office, May 11, 1900.*

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for India to offer the following remarks on the papers received with your letter, dated the 8th May, 1900, concerning proposed changes in the Turkish import Tariff.

The value of Indian goods exported to the Turkish dominions (not including Egypt) averages annually about 570,000*l.** As regards the general Tariff India will be content to come under any Turkish Tariff that may be accepted in behalf of the United Kingdom; but I am to support the recommendation of the Board of Trade that effort should be made that the valuation of goods under the tariff shall be, as far as possible, in accord with actual facts.

Lord George Hamilton also strongly supports the suggestion of the Board of Trade that opportunity be taken to secure, as a condition of England's recognizing the new Tariff, that the promised new lighthouse in the Red Sea should be established by the Porte as soon as possible, and maintained without the levy of any fresh dues on shipping. The early improvement of the lighting of the lower part of the Red Sea is a matter of great importance to Indian trade.

The Turkish sanitary dues are not of such great importance to India as the lighting of the Red Sea; but Lord George Hamilton desires me to add that he supports the recommendation of the Board of Trade on this point also.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. GODLEY.

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* 56,700*l.* to Turkey in Europe, 520,000*l.* to Turkey in Asia.

No. 54.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 11. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, May 15, 1900.*

ACCORDING to the arrangement arrived at in notes exchanged with the Turkish Ambassador on the 8th and 10th October, 1899, the reduction of 10 per cent. in the Ottoman light dues should have commenced on the 4th September last.

Has this been done?

No. 55.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 48. Commercial. Confidential.)
Foreign Office, May 15, 1900.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 45, Commercial, of the 9th instant, I transmit herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter from the India Office in connection with the negotiations respecting the proposed increase of the Turkish Tariff.*

I also inclose a copy of a Memorandum prepared in this Department on the subject of Red Sea lights.†

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 56.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received May 17.)

(No. 22. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Constantinople, May 17, 1900.*

REDUCTION on light dues, referred to in your Lordship's telegram No. 11, was made on the 4th September.

No. 57.

Colonial Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 19.)

Sir, *Downing Street, May 18, 1900.*

IN reply to your letter of the 12th instant, forwarding a telegram from Sir N. O'Conor respecting the negotiations for the revision of the Turkish Customs Tariff, and asking for any observations Mr. Secretary Chamberlain might have to offer on the subject, I am directed to request that you will inform the Marquess of Salisbury that Mr. Chamberlain has nothing to add to the letter from this Department of the 10th instant, except that, further information respecting the Turkish customs duties and the proposed changes having since been furnished by your Department, a despatch will be at once addressed to the Acting High Commissioner of Cyprus asking for a report as to their effect on the trade of the island.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. BERTRAM COX.

No. 58.

Foreign Office to Board of Trade.

(Confidential.)
Foreign Office, May 21, 1900.

Sir,

WITH reference to the letter from this Office of the 17th instant respecting the proposed increase of the Turkish import duties, I am directed by the Marquess of

* No. 53. † No. 46.

Salisbury to state that Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople has reported by telegraph that according to the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs the construction of the four proposed lighthouses in the Red Sea has already begun, and that the Council of Ministers has decided that no additional dues shall be imposed, although the Minister of Finance was pressing for an increase to cover the cost of maintenance.

Sir N. O'Conor further reports that, in pursuance of the arrangements recorded in the notes exchanged in London on the 8th and 10th October, the reduction of 10 per cent. in the Ottoman light dues duly took place on the 4th September last.

I am, &c.
(Signed) MARTIN GOSELIN.

No. 59.

Question asked in the House of Commons, May 22, 1900.

Mr. Joseph Walton.—To ask the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether any general increase of duty on British goods entering Turkey has been agreed to by Her Majesty's Government.

Answer.

Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople is at present engaged, in concert with his foreign colleagues, in negotiations upon this subject, which are not yet completed.

No. 60.

Question asked in the House of Commons, May 25, 1900.

Sir Ellis Ashmead-Bartlett.—To ask the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, whether the Turkish Government have proposed an increase of import duties for the Ottoman Empire:

And, whether Her Majesty's Government have taken any diplomatic action with regard to this increase.

Answer.

I explained a few days ago that Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople is engaged in negotiations in concert with his colleagues in reference to this question. I am not at present in a position to make a statement.

No. 61.

Board of Trade to Foreign Office.—(*Received May 26.*)

Sir, *Board of Trade, May 25, 1900.*

REFERRING to previous correspondence respecting the proposed increase of import duties in Turkey, and especially to your letters of the 12th, the 17th, and the 21st instant, I am directed by the Board of Trade to state that, having regard to the special circumstances of the case, they concur with Sir N. O'Conor's views in regard to this matter as expressed in his despatch of the 2nd instant and his telegram of the 10th instant.

In view of Sir N. O'Conor's opinion that it would not be possible to secure unanimity on the part of the Ambassadors in support of any further conditions than those specified in his despatch, the Board agree that the question of sanitary dues should not be pressed

at the present moment in connection with the Turkish proposal to raise the rates of import duties. They note with satisfaction that, as stated in your letter of the 21st instant, the construction of the four proposed lighthouses in the Red Sea has already been begun, and that the Council of Ministers have decided not to collect any additional dues in connection therewith.

The Board assume that the communications of Tewfik Pasha to Sir N. O'Conor on this last point may be regarded as an assurance that no proposal for the collection of additional dues will be made by the Turkish Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. E. BATEMAN.

No. 62.

*Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.**—(*Received May 28.*)

(No. 76. Commercial.) *Constantinople, May 21, 1900.*

My Lord,

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 48, Confidential, Commercial, dated the 15th instant, I have the honour to report that, in reply to my inquiries, the Minister for Foreign Affairs again assured me this morning that he did not believe any fresh or extra dues would be levied on account of the new lighthouses in the Red Sea.

His Excellency repeated that the Minister of Marine was desirous to obtain a small increase, but that he had explained to him the strong objections entertained by Her Majesty's Government to any augmentation of these dues and the difficulties in the way, and he believed I need have no anxiety on the subject.

Tewfik Pasha added that the cost of construction would be borne by the Ottoman Government, who would get an advance from the "Société des Phares" for the purpose, and recoup themselves in course of time from the present lighthouse dues paid to the Imperial Government.

The French Ambassador is evidently contented to see the question settled in this way, and the "Société des Phares" has such a profitable business that they can well afford to bear the small extra cost without complaint.

I have already in my telegram No. 22, Commercial, of the 17th instant explained my reasons for thinking that a proposal for the reduction of the sanitary dues, in connection with the proposed increase of the import duties, would neither be opportune nor acceptable to the majority of my colleagues.

I am, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

No. 63.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(*Received May 29.*)

India Office, May 28, 1900.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for India to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 12th and 17th May, and to inform you that, in view of the telegram from Sir N. O'Conor of the 10th May, his Lordship recognizes that it may not be feasible on this occasion to press the Turkish Government respecting the lighting of the Red Sea. He is prepared, therefore, to acquiesce in the postponement of this and the other matters, with the exception of those relating to Customs, until a more suitable opportunity.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. GODLEY.

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* Copy to Cairo and to Board of Trade, June 2, 1900.

No. 64.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 51. Commercial.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, May 31, 1900.*

WITH reference to your despatch No. 64, Commercial, of the 2nd instant, respecting the proposed increase of import duties in Turkey, I transmit herewith a copy of a letter from the Board of Trade expressing their concurrence in your views.[1]

I request that your Excellency will report whether in your opinion it can be assumed with certainty that the proposal to levy extra duties in respect of the construction and maintenance of the four new lighthouses in the Red Sea has been definitely abandoned.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 65.

Memorandum by Mr. Lair respecting Position of British Trade in Turkey on termination of Treaty of Commerce of April 29, 1861 (Hertslet's Memorandum, February 7, 1883, and other papers).

THE right to most-favoured-nation treatment in all respects is founded on Article XVIII of the English Capitulations of 1675 which were confirmed by the Treaty of Peace (Dardanelles) of the 5th January, 1809.

This Article runs:—

"That all Capitulations, privileges, and Articles granted to the French, Venetian, and other Princes, who are in amity with the Sublime Porte, having been in like manner, through favour, granted to the English, by virtue of our special command, the same shall be observed according to the form and tenour thereof, so that no one in future do presume to violate the same, or act in contravention thereof."

As regards the question of duties, Sir E. Hertslet quotes from the United States' Senate Report (Ex. Doc. No. 3, Special Session, 1881, No. 23, p. 5 of Memorandum).

"According to the old Capitulations all goods, whether imported into, or exported from the Ottoman Empire, paid the uniform duty of 3 per cent. . . .

The Porte made good the loss it sustained from a too low rate of duties, by putting continual embarrassments in the way of merchants, and by imposing the heaviest excises upon European goods after they had entered the Empire, and when it was sought to circulate them throughout the interior . . . .

The Porte also "availed itself of the right of forbidding the exportation of such wares or products as it should be in need of, and had prohibited the taking out of almost every Turkish product, or had so enormously raised the price of the same as to reduce it to a monopoly."

Eventually, to put an end of these difficulties, the Treaty of Commerce of Balta Liman was signed by Lord Ponsonby (16th August, 1838).

All the other Powers that had Capitulations with the Porte accepted the clauses of the Treaty of 1838, and those who had no Capitulations, such as Belgium, Greece, and Bavaria, inserted them in their Treaties with the Porte.

By Article IV of the Treaty of 1838 goods purchased for exportation were to pay 9 per cent. *ad valorem* on entry into the place of shipment, and 3 per cent. on actual exportation; but goods bought in shipping ports for exportation were only to pay the 3 per cent. duty.

By Article VII of the Treaty Commissioners were to be named "to fix and determine the amount in money which is to be paid by British subjects as the duty of 3 per cent. upon the value of all commodities imported and exported by them." Provision was made for a periodical revision of the Tariff thus established.

By means of Additional Articles, it was arranged that (Article I), in lieu of all other and interior duties, one fixed duty of 2 per cent. should be paid.

[1] No. 61

By the Commercial Treaty of 1861 (Article IV) the export duty was fixed at 8 per cent. *ad valorem* for the first year, and was to be reduced annually by 1 per cent. until it should be reduced to a fixed duty of 1 per cent. *ad valorem*, to cover the general expenses of administration and control. The import duty was not to exceed 8 per cent. *ad valorem* (Article V), or a specific duty, fixed by common consent, equivalent thereto.

In March 1882 the Porte announced their desire to revise the Tariff of the Commercial Treaty of 1861, and of their intention to denounce the Treaty itself. Lord Granville contended, however, that the Treaty was not terminable till the 1st October, 1883, nor the Tariff till the 1st September, 1882.

In the meantime, Lord Dufferin (No. 11, Commercial, of the 30th October, 1882) was informed that it was "to be borne in mind that complete most-favoured-nation treatment should be secured for British subjects, commerce, and navigation in the new Treaty and during the interval" between the termination of the old, and the coming into operation of the new, Treaty, and on the 23rd January, 1883 (No. 11, Commercial), Mr. Wyndham was instructed to continue to act on the despatch of the 30th October, and to insist on complete most-favoured-nation treatment.

On the 8th February, 1883, Mr. Wyndham telegraphed that the Porte had informed him that the British Tariff[a] was to remain provisionally in force.

Mr. Wyndham was then instructed to propose that the duration of the Treaty and Tariff of 1861 should be prolonged indefinitely during the negotiation of a new Treaty, or, failing this arrangement, until the 1st October, 1884.

The Porte declined. They considered that the Tariff remained in force till the 1st October, 1883, and stated that, if a new Treaty and Tariff were not then concluded, the Government had decided to levy duties at the rate of 8 per cent. *ad valorem*.

On the 17th May, 1883, however, the Porte announced that, the Tariff having ceased to have the force of law since the 1st (13th) March, import duties were to be at once levied at 8 per cent. *ad valorem* "jusqu'à nouvel ordre des choses."

Against this breach of the assurance previously given Her Majesty's Government protested. The arrangement, however, was agreeable to British merchants, who declared it to be not prejudicial to their interests, and Mr. Wyndham was accordingly authorized to accept it, while making a reserve as to the manner in which it was brought about.

It subsequently appeared that the only goods at all unfavourably affected were some classes of cottons and velvets.

At the same time, a despatch was addressed to Mr. Wyndham (No. 74, Commercial, of the 5th June, 1883), showing the position in which British subjects and their commerce were placed on the expiration of the Treaty of 1861 and before the conclusion of a fresh Treaty, and stating that Her Majesty's Government considered that, on the lapse of the Treaty of 1861, they could continue to claim complete most-favoured-nation treatment for British subjects, ships, commerce, and navigation, in the Ottoman dominions; and, in the event of any difficulty being raised in that regard by the Porte, that British subjects and commerce would be fully entitled to claim, as an alternative, the privileges conceded by the Capitulations and Treaties prior to the Treaty of 1838, which was replaced by that of 1861. Mr. Wyndham was instructed to bring the question before the attention of the Porte, and to ascertain definitely what their intentions were in regard to British commerce after the 1st October.

On the 7th August, 1883, Mr. Wyndham was desired to ask for a reply to the note he had addressed to the Porte in pursuance of these instructions, and to suggest that the Treaty and the new 8 per cent. Tariff should be prolonged by a formal Declaration.

On the 15th August and the 6th September Mr. Wyndham again asked for information from the Porte.

Lord Dufferin was next instructed to inform the Porte that Her Majesty's Government maintained their demands, and, in the event of no such Declaration having been signed by the 31st October, would assume that British trade would nevertheless continue to receive most-favoured-nation treatment under the privileges conceded to British merchants by the Capitulations and Treaties.

[a] i.e., the Tariff of the Treaty of 1861.

The successive Tariff alterations were as follows:—

	Duty per cent. *ad valorem*.	
	Import.	Export.
Under Capitulations	3	3
Treaty of 1838	5 + 2	9 + 3
„ 1861	8*	8* To be reduced annually to 1.

(Signed) A. LAW.

Foreign Office, June 1, 1900.

No. 66.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 12. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, June* 1, 1900.

NO definite agreement should be made without referring home as to the increase of customs duties referred to in your Excellency's despatch No. 76, Commercial of the 21st ultimo.

No. 67.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 16. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, June* 6, 1900.

WHAT is present position of question of increase of custom duties referred to in my telegram No. 12, Commercial?

Seeing that progress is being made towards the construction of Red Sea lights, I doubt whether it will be of any use to bring forward demands on other questions in which we are interested, but which you think would not be supported by other Representatives, as long as you are certain that no extra light dues are now contemplated.

But some binding assurance that the increased revenue which will accrue shall not be applied by the Porte to a kilometric guarantee on some fresh railway Concession should, I think, be obtained.

As a measure of economy which we have a right to urge under the circumstances, would it be possible to obtain from the Porte a promise that the Powers concurring in the present fiscal increase should share equally any future grant of kilometric guarantees?

No. 68.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.† —*(Received June* 11.)

(No. 81. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, June* 6, 1900.

THE subject of the proposed increase of the Turkish *ad valorem* duties on imports was again discussed at the meeting of Ambassadors on the 4th instant.

* As assessed by Tariff drawn up by Commissioners under the Treaty.
Since March 1885, 8 per cent. *ad valorem* on imports.
† Copy to India Office and to Board of Trade, June 14, 1900.

It appeared that none of the Representatives had received definite instructions except the Russian Chargé d'Affaires, who announced that his Government would not agree to the raising of the *ad valorem* duties, but that they were not opposed to taking into consideration the question of an increase of the customs duties on the basis of the specific Tariff long since negotiated with Turkey.

In the opinion of the meeting this Russian declaration was fatal to the acceptance by the other Powers of the Turkish proposal.

The French Ambassador, who has again resumed his negotiation for a Commercial Treaty, stated that it was now nearly completed.

I am asking Mr. Weakley to lose no time in making his observations on the points to be borne in mind on the assumption of our own commercial negotiations, and I hope to be able shortly to transmit his report, with my observations, to your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

No. 69.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—*(Received June* 11.)

(No. 83. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, June* 6, 1900.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a letter which has been addressed by the several Delegates on the Administrative Council of the Ottoman Public Debt to their respective Embassies requesting that, in view of the proposal to raise the Turkish import duties from 8 per cent. to 11 per cent. *ad valorem*, representations may be made to the Sublime Porte pointing out the opportuneness of arriving at an understanding with the Public Debt as to the rights of that institution under Article 8, section 3 of the Decree of Muharrem.

In agreement with my colleagues I should have been ready to bring this subject to the notice of the Sublime Porte in the manner suggested in Mr. Babington Smith's communication, but as the proposal for the increase of the import duties is now unlikely to be accepted by the Powers owing to the attitude of the Russian Government, as reported in my despatch No. 81, Commercial, of this day's date, the request of the Council of the Debt seems to call for no action for the present.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

Inclosure in No. 69.

Mr. Babington Smith to Sir N. O'Conor.

Sir, *Constantinople, May* 31, 1900.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the Council of Administration of the Ottoman Public Debt have under their consideration the manner in which the right of the holders of Turkish bonds will be affected if the proposal to raise the Turkish customs duties from 8 per cent. *ad valorem* to 11 per cent. is carried into effect.

By Article 8 paragraph 3 of the Decree of Muharrem any excess of revenue arising from an increase in the rate of these duties is assigned for the service of the Turkish Debt.

The increase of the duties from 8 to 11 per cent. will cause an increase of the nature specified, and the Council of Debt consider that they have a clear and indisputable title to claim the increase for the benefit of those whom they represent.

It may possibly be contended by the Turkish Government that, in view of the concluding words of the above-mentioned clause, "en cas de revision des Traités de Commerce," no claim will arise in the case of the increase now contemplated; but the Council of the Debt are of the opinion that such a contention could only be founded upon a strained and unnatural interpretation of the wording of the clause, and upon an erroneous view of the conditions under which the proposed increase would be made.

Should your Excellency concur in the view that the Council is justified in putting forward this claim on behalf of the bond-holders, I would beg you, in consideration of the importance of the British interests affected, to be so good as to point out to the Sublime Porte the opportuneness of arriving at an understanding with the Council of Administration of the Ottoman Public Debt with regard to the stipulations of Article 8, paragraph 3 of the Decree of Muharrem. A suggestion of this nature would materially assist the Council of the Debt in the representations which it will be their duty to make to the Turkish Government.

A similar request has been addressed by my colleagues on the Council of the Debt to the Ambassadors of the other Powers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. BABINGTON SMITH.

No. 70.

Bradford Chamber of Commerce to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received June* 14.)

My Lord, *Bradford, June* 13, 1900.

I AM informed by a Bradford firm that, in future, certificates of origin (to be signed by the Turkish Consul in London) will be required for all British goods imported into Turkey, and that, unless such certificates are produced, extra duties will have to be paid.

I am desired to ask if you will be good enough to state whether any new Regulations have been made by the Turkish Government with regard to certificates of origin, and, if it be true that such certificates are required, if you will be kind enough to endeavour to arrange for the certificate of a British Chamber of Commerce being accepted, as in the case of Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Russia, and other countries where such certificates are required, instead of a certificate signed by the Turkish Consul.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FREDK HOOPER,
Secretary.

No. 71.

*Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.**—(*Received June* 14.)

(No. 29. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Constantinople, June* 14, 1900.

AFTER the 10th July, certificates of origin, legalized by the Turkish Consul, will be required by the Ottoman Government for goods mentioned in the differential Tariff to be applied to Bulgaria, Roumania, Servia, and Greece.

Details of the Regulations are being discussed, but British trade is not likely to be seriously affected by it. I shall send further particulars by post.

No. 72.

*The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.**

(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, June* 14, 1900.

WITH reference to your Excellency's telegram, Commercial, No. 29. Would it be possible for your Excellency to arrange that the certificates, which British Chambers of Commerce issue, should be accepted in lieu of those signed by the Turkish Consul?

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* Copy to Board of Trade, June 14, 1900

No. 73.

Foreign Office to Board of Trade.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 14, 1900.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit herewith, to be laid before the Board of Trade, copies of correspondence, as noted in the margin,* with regard to a new Turkish Regulation requiring certificates of origin for goods imported into Turkey, included in the differential Tariff imposed against Greece and the Balkan States.

I am, &c.
(Signed) F. H. VILLIERS.

No. 74.

Foreign Office to Bradford Chamber of Commerce.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 14, 1900.

IN reply to your letter of the 13th instant, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to inform you that Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople has to-day reported by telegraph that the Turkish Government require that, after the 10th July, goods included in the new differential Tariff imposed against Greece and the Balkan States shall be accompanied by certificates of origin legalized by the Ottoman Consul.

Lord Salisbury has, in reply, instructed his Excellency to endeavour to arrange that in any instances where British trade might be concerned certificates issued by British Chambers of Commerce should be accepted instead of those legalized by the Turkish Consul.

I am, &c.
(Signed) F. H. VILLIERS.

No. 75.

Messrs. J. Zossenheim and Partners to Foreign Office.†—(*Received June* 15.)

Sir, *York Place, Leeds, June* 14, 1900.

WE are informed by the Liverpool Steam Shipping Company, Messrs. William Johnston and Co. (Limited), as per inclosed letter, that the Turkish Government demands a certificate of origin to accompany each shipment bound for a Turkish port —that certificate to specify that the goods are of British manufacture.

The fee imposed for this certificate is 9*s.* 11*d.*

We shall be obliged by your making inquiries into this matter, with a view to the removal of such an arbitrary impost, which, of course, will have to be paid by shippers on this side.

Yours faithfully,
(*Per* E. E.),
(Signed) J. ZOSSENHEIM AND PARTNERS.

Inclosure in No. 75.

Messrs. H. Johnston and Co. to Messrs. J. Zossenheim and Partners.

Dear Sirs, *Liverpool, June* 12, 1900.

WE are advised by our agents that in future it will be necessary to forward certificates of origin *viséd* by the Turkish Consul, upon any shipments you may make to Salonica, or other Turkish ports, of the under-mentioned articles, viz.:—

* Nos. 70, 71, and 72.

† Copy to Board of Trade, June 21, 1900.

Cottons, yarns, woollens, sacks, cloths, leather and hides, grease, tallow, oil for machinery, and cheese.

Will you, therefore, kindly make the necessary arrangements to forward these certificates, along with the bills of lading, to your consignees, otherwise enhanced duties will be levied by the Turkish authorities.

We are, &c.
(Signed) WM. JOHNSTON AND Co. (Limited).

No. 76.

Anthopoulo Pasha to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received June 16.)

L'AMBASSADEUR de Turquie présente ses compliments à sa Seigneurie le Marquis de Salisbury et a l'honneur de porter à la haute connaissance, suivant instructions reçues de Constantinople relativement aux négociations concernant la majoration des droits de douane en Turquie, que le Gouvernement Ottoman serait très reconnaissant si cette question était expédiée le plus promptement possible, conformément aux assurances déjà données, sur ce point, de la part des Puissances par l'intermédiaire de leurs Représentants à Constantinople.

L'Ambassadeur de Turquie prend la liberté de rappeler à sa Seigneurie qu'en effet les Ambassadeurs des Puissances à Constantinople, par leur note collective du 2 Mai dernier, ont promis au Gouvernement Impérial de soumettre sans délai sa proposition y relative à leurs Gouvernements respectifs et de l'informer aussitôt des réponses qu'ils auraient reçues.

Comme plus d'un mois s'est déjà écoulé depuis cette déclaration et qu'aucune réponse définitive n'a été communiquée à la Sublime Porte, l'Ambassadeur de Turquie espère avec confiance que sa Seigneurie voudra bien munir sans retard l'Ambassadeur Britannique à Constantinople des instructions nécessaires pouvant amener avec rapidité le résultat désiré.

Ambassade Impériale de Turquie, Londres,
le 15 Juin, 1900.

No. 77.

*The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.**

(No. 64. Commercial.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, June 16, 1900.*

WITH reference to my telegram No. 18, Commercial, of the 14th instant,* I transmit to your Excellency herewith copy of a letter from Messrs. Zossenheim and Partners, complaining that the new Turkish Regulations relative to certificates of origin include cottons and woollens.

I request that your Excellency will furnish me with a report on this point.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 78.

Foreign Office to Messrs. J. Zossenheim and Partners.

Gentlemen, *Foreign Office, June 16, 1900.*

IN reply to your letter of the 14th instant, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to inform you that Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople reported by telegraph on the 14th instant, that the Turkish Government require that after the 10th July, goods included in the new differential Tariff imposed against Greece and the Balkan States shall be accompanied by certificates of origin legalized by the Ottoman Consul.

* No. 75

Lord Salisbury in reply instructed Sir N. O'Conor to endeavour to arrange that, in any instances where British trade might be concerned, certificates issued by British Chambers of Commerce should be accepted instead of those legalized by the Turkish Consul.

Further inquiry will be made of his Excellency as to whether the new Regulations apply to cottons and woollens.

I am, &c.
(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

No. 79.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.†—(Received June 18.)

(No. 85. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Therapia, June 8, 1900.*

IN the course of an interview with the Minister for Foreign Affairs yesterday I reminded his Excellency of the assurances he had given me, and which I had duly communicated to your Lordship, that no fresh duties would be levied on account of the construction or maintenance of the new Breakwater in the Bosphorus.

I pointed out that the representatives of the British shipping interest, who were already heavily burdened, were anxious to hear that the question had been definitely settled, and that I should be glad to receive a formal written assurance in accordance with his verbal communications.

Tewfik Pasha replied that he would address a note to me within a few days. I said that this would be well, but that his Excellency must clearly understand that the assurances already given by him were regarded as binding, and that Her Majesty's Government could not consent under any circumstances to new duties on this score, whatever efforts might be made by the Ottoman Minister of Marine to effect this end.

I thought it advisable on my return to request Mr. Block to endeavour to see a copy of the proposed note from the Sublime Porte, and to assure himself, before it was actually sent, that it was in accordance with the language held to me by Tewfik Pasha.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

No. 80.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received June 18.)

(No. 89. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, June 14, 1900.*

WITH reference to my telegram No. 29 of to-day's date, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of the differential Tariff intended to be applied from to-day to imports from Greece, Roumania, Servia, and Bulgaria, which has been communicated to me by the Sublime Porte, as well as copy of a *note verbale* addressed by the Imperial Government to the missions of Powers other than those above-mentioned, informing them that from the 10th proximo certificates of origin will be demanded for all articles mentioned in the new Tariff, when imported from their respective countries.

Up to the last moment considerable uncertainty has prevailed as to whether the Ottoman Government would override the remonstrances of the Powers immediately concerned against differential treatment, and disregard in the case of Greece the support given to that country by five of the Embassies, as reported in my telegram No. 27 of the 5th instant; but although I am unable to obtain confirmation of it in time for post, I have no reason to doubt that the Tariff will be applied to-day, though I trust that it will only remain in force for a limited time.

I am pointing out to the Sublime Porte that a month's notice is not sufficient to enable British shippers to comply with the demand for certificates of origin, that it is unusual in such documents to require the legalization of the Consul in addition to the Customs declaration of the country of origin, a requirement, indeed, which in ports

* Copy to Board of Trade, June 21, 1900

where there are no Turkish Consular officers would be impossible of fulfilment, and finally that in any case the fee charged for such legalization is excessive, and will be prohibitive in the case of small parcels.

I understand that the other Embassies are making representations in the same sense without, however, actually contesting the legality of the measure.

I have been unable as yet to obtain a copy of the form of certificate which will meet the requirements of the Turkish Customs, but I hope to be able to furnish your Lordship with one at an early date.

In the meantime I inclose a Memorandum by Mr. Weakley containing his observations on the new measure as affecting British trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

Inclosure 1 in No. 80.

Differential Tariff to be applied to Imports from Greece, Roumania, Servia, and Bulgaria.

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droits à percevoir.	Tares. — Espèce de l'Emballage.	Pour Cent.
		Piastres.		
Animaux vivants—				
1. Béliers, moutons, et brebis	Par tête	16	Point de tare	..
2. Bœufs et chèvres	"	20		
3. Agneaux et chevreaux	"	10		
4. Porcs	"	60		
Aliments d'origine animale—				
5. Beurres frais et salés	100 kilog.	200	Caisses et futailles	14
			Paniers	7
			Balles	4
			Barils	11
6. Beurre de Sibérie et beurre artificiel	100 "	200	Caisses et futailles	14
			Paniers	7
			Balles	4
			Barils	10
7. Fromages (Sahoutsina, Kieli, Kaval, Tcheki, Toulumi, fromages divers et autres)	100 "	240	Caisses et futailles	14
			Paniers	9
			Balles	6
8. Huiles grasses et graisses pour l'industrie	100 "	75	Caisses et futailles	13
			Paniers	9
			Balles	4
Céréales et légumineux—				
9. Froment, épeautre, et méteil	100 "	30	Point de tare	..
10. Avoine, orge, Kaphidja, maïs, millet, sarrazin	100 "	20		
Produits de la meunerie—				
11. Farines—				
(a.) De froment	100 "	50	Point de tare	..
(b.) D'avoine, d'orge, de maïs, et autres farines non dénommées	100 "	30		
12. Gruaux, semoules, grains perlés et autres blés moulus	100 "	40		
Boissons fermentées—				
13. Vins ordinaires, moût de raisin ou d'autre fruits—				
(a.) En fûts ou en outres	100 "	150	Double fûts	11
(b.) En bouteilles	100 "	300	Caisses et fûts renfermant bouteilles	24
			Paniers renfermant bouteilles	16
14. Vinaigre—				
(a.) En fûts	100 "	75	Point de tare	..
			Caisses et fûts renfermant bouteilles	24
(b.) En bouteilles	100 "	150	Paniers renfermant bouteilles	16
15. Alcools en fûts	100 "	300	Double fûts	11
16. Cognac, marc, rhum, eau de vie, et autres spiritueux obtenus ou fermentés—				
(a.) En futailles	100 "	600	Double fûts	11
(b.) En bouteilles, cruches, ou dames-jeannes	100 "	800	Caisses et fûts renfermant bouteilles	24
			Paniers renfermant bouteilles	16

Dénomination des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droits à percevoir.	Tares. — Espèce de l'Emballage.	Pour Cent.
		Piastres.		
Épices—				
17. Poivre rouge	100 kilog.	250	Caisses et futailles	17
			Paniers	13
			Balles	4
Ouvrages de corderie—				
18. Câbles et cordes	100 "	100	Caisses et fûts	15
			Paniers	7
			Balles	6
19. Sangles, liens, et autres articles de cordier	100 "	180		
Tissus de laine—				
20. Abâ et chayak grossier en laine chameau	100 "	600	Caisses et fûts	20
			Paniers	13
			Balles	7
Tapis—				
21. Vallonées	100 "	250	Point de tare	..
Savons—				
22. (a.) Mous, verts, noir et autres savons mous	100 "	210	Caisses et fûts	13
			Paniers	9
(b.) Durs, communs, non parfumés	100 "	240	Balles	6
			Double fûts	11
Fruits et légumes—				
Fruits frais—				
23. Raisins, oranges, citrons, olives vertes, pommes et poires	100 "	60	Point de tare	..
24. Autres fruits frais non dénommés	100 "	100	Caisses et fûts	16
			Paniers	7
			Balles	4
Fruits secs—				
25. Figues	100 "	180	Caisses et fûts	16
26. Amandes, pistaches	100 "	300	Paniers	7
			Balles	4
27. Pepins de citrouille, noix, noisettes	100 "	80	Point de tare	..
28. Carobes	100 "	80	"	..
Raisins, dattes, et autres fruits secs non dénommés	100 "	240	Caisses et fûts	14
			Paniers	7
29. Olives salées ou en saumure	100 "	180	Balles	4
Huiles comestibles—				
30. Huile d'olives en futailles, en outres ainsi qu'en cruches ou flacons de 15 kilog. de poids brut par pièce	100 "	200	Double fûts	11
31. Huile d'olives et autres en bouteilles ou en cruches d'un poids brut de 15 kilog. ou net-dessous par pièce	100 "	150	Caisses et fûts renfermant bouteilles	24
			Paniers renfermant bouteilles	16
Peaux et cuirs—				
32. Cuirs—				
(a.) Cuirs à semelles et cuirs semblables non corroyés	"	600		
(b.) Cuirs corroyés à l'usage du sellier et de la ganterie, couleur naturelle, noire, jaune, cuir de Russie dit sélatino, teint ou non teint	"	750		
(c.) Veaux ou vachettes corroyés et graissés, couleur naturelle, noircie ou cirée; peaux de chèvres, corroyés et graissés, noircies, même graissés, non compris au paragraphe (d)	"	1,000	Caisses et fûts	18
			Paniers	13
			Balles	6
(d.) Peaux de mouton et de chèvres et autres peaux corroyées, teintes, et toutes les peaux chagrinées à dessins ou huilées	"	1,200		
(e.) Cuirs vernis de toute espèce (moutons, veaux, chèvres, vaches, chevaux, et autres)	100 kilog.	1,200		
(f.) Peaux de chevreaux préparées pour la ganterie, veaux mégissés dit gant, et autres cuirs mégissés, cuirs chamoisés	100 "	1,200	Caisses et fûts	18
			Paniers	13
			Balles	6
33. Parchemin	100 "	1,200		
34. Cuir à semelles tactice (Taluche)	100 "	200	Point de tare	..
35. Avant-pieds et tiges pour chaussures et empeignes de toute espèce 20 pour cent en sus de la taxe du cuir dont ils sont confectionnés	"	"	Caisses et fûts	16
			Paniers	13
			Balles	6
36. Éponges	100 kilog.	1,500		

Désignation des Marchandises.	Unité.	Droits à percevoir.	Taxes. Espèces de l'Emballage.	Pour Cent.
		Piastres.		
37. Toile à voile	100 Kilog.	240	Caisses et fûts	20
			Paniers	9
			Balles	6
38. Fil de coton jusqu'au No. 20	..	240	Caisses et fûts	13
			Paniers	9
			Balles	6
39. Tissus de coton	..	480		

Inclosure 2 in No. 80.

Note Verbale.

(Circulaire.) *Sublime Porte, le 10 Juin*, 1906.

EN vue d'assurer la stricte application du Tarif différentiel qui est entré en vigueur depuis le 15 (28) Mai dernier à l'égard de certaines provenances Roumaines, et auquel seront soumises à partir du 1er (14) Juin prochain les importations similaires de la Grèce, de la Serbie, du Monténégro, et de la Bulgarie, les Douanes de l'Empire ont été invitées à exiger des certificats d'origine dûment légalisés par les Consuls Ottomans au sujet des articles similaires importés de ces autres pays.

Le Ministère des Affaires Étrangères a l'honneur de prier l'Ambassade de Sa Majesté Britannique de vouloir bien porter ce qui précède à la connaissance des commerçants sujets Anglais, et les informer en même temps, que les autorités Douanières de l'Empire ne commenceront à exiger les dits certificats que dans un mois à partir de la date de la présente note verbale.

Inclosure 3 in No. 80.

Memorandum by Mr. Weakley.

I HAVE been to the custom-house and seen Riza Bey on the subject of certificates of origin. He informed me that there will be no difficulty as far as we are concerned, for the greater part of British imports will need no certificates whatever. A few articles, however, such as hemp, ropes, hawsers, string, sail-cloth, rum, &c., which are imported from the United Kingdom in small quantities, will require certificates, as these articles are mentioned in the differential Tariff.

The certificates must be obtained from the Collector of Customs, or from Chambers of Commerce, and the fee charged by Turkish Consular officials for legalizing such documents is 40 piastres gold.

Certificates will be required for small as well as for large parcels, if they contain goods similar to those which are exported from Roumania, Greece, &c.

No certificates will be demanded for parcels coming by parcels post, the official bordereau of parcels, which is always handed in to the Ottoman Customs Administration by the foreign post offices, will be considered sufficient.

A copy of the differential Tariff will be sent to each Embassy by the Porte in a day or two, and I would suggest that a copy of it be sent to the Foreign Office along with a copy of the Porte's note.

The demand for certificates of origin, which is both vexatious and a source of expense to traders, has undoubtedly been adopted in order to prevent the products of Roumania, Greece, &c., from finding their way into Turkey through Russian and Italian ports by transhipment, and thus avoid the payment of an all but prohibitive duty.

It is to be noted that no mention is made in the *note verbale* of the period for which the measure is to remain in force. This is a most important point, and I would venture to suggest that should it be found impossible to induce the Porte to desist from demanding such certificates from importers, a positive declaration might be obtained, limiting the enforcement of the new Regulation to a specified time.

(Signed) ERNEST WEAKLEY.

Constantinople, June 13, 1900.

No. 81.

Bristol Chamber of Commerce to Foreign Office.—(*Received June 20.*)

Guildhall, Small Street, Bristol, June 19, 1900.

Sir,

WILL you kindly send me a supply of certificates of origin for goods exported from this country to Turkey. I am given to understand that this is a Regulation recently come into force.

I am, &c.

(Signed) H. J. SPEAR, *Secretary.*

No. 82.

Liverpool Chamber of Commerce to Foreign Office.—(*Received June 20.*)

Liverpool, June 19, 1900.

Sir,

APPLICATION has been made at this Chamber for certificates of origin for merchandize shipped from Liverpool to Turkish ports, and I am at the same time informed by the applicants that "in the near future it will be necessary for shippers and manufacturers trading with Turkey to take out certificates of origin for shipments to Turkish ports."

Before issuing such certificates, I should be glad if you will inform me whether it is in accord with the arrangements made between the British and Turkish Governments that this Chamber should do so.

I am, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS H. BARKER,
Secretary.

No. 83.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 22. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, June 20, 1900.*

REFERRING to my telegram No. 18, Commercial, of the 14th instant relating to certificates of origin. You should report any settlement as soon as possible, in order that public may be informed.

No. 84.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 67. Commercial.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, June 21, 1900.*

WITH reference to my telegram No. 18, Commercial, of the 14th instant, I transmit to your Excellency herewith copy of a letter from the Bristol Chamber of Commerce with regard to the requirement of certificates of origin for goods imported into the Ottoman Empire.

Should it be eventually decided that such certificates will be required, I request that your Excellency will furnish me with the form in which they should be issued.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 85.

*Foreign Office to Bristol Chamber of Commerce.**

Sir, *Foreign Office, June 21, 1900.*

IN reply to your letter of the 19th instant, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to inform you that Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople reported by telegraph on the 14th instant that the Turkish Government require that after the 10th July goods included in the new differential Tariff imposed against Greece and the Balkan States shall be accompanied by certificates of origin legalized by the Ottoman Consul.

Sir N. O'Conor was thereupon instructed to endeavour to arrange that in any instances where British trade might be concerned certificates issued by British Chambers of Commerce should be accepted instead of those legalized by the Turkish Consul.

This Department does not yet know whether the matter has been definitely settled, or what form of certificate may be required.

I am, &c.
(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

No. 86.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.†—(Received June 22.)

(No. 30. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Constantinople, June 22, 1900.*

IN reply to your Lordship's telegram of the 20th instant, I understand the Commission are likely to insist on Turkish Consular *visa* on certificates of origin wherever there is a Turkish Consular officer. Decision will be given to-morrow.

No. 87

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received June 25.)

(No. 90. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Therapia, June 14, 1900.*

HAVING already reported that the Turkish proposal to raise fresh revenue by means of an increase of the *ad valorem* customs duties has fallen through, at least for the present, owing to the refusal of the Russian Embassy to entertain it, I need not, perhaps, trouble your Lordship with my observations in detail on the points raised in your telegram No. 16, Commercial, of the 6th instant, having reference to the manner in which the Porte should be allowed to dispose of any increased revenue accruing to her.

As, however, it is possible that, in the future, the Porte may succeed in raising the Tariff, I venture to offer the following general remarks bearing on the subject.

It should be remembered that the Public Debt have the first claim on the increased revenue by the terms of Article 8 of the Decree of Muharrem. Any revenue remaining over after that claim has been satisfied would, no doubt, be available for the payment of railway guarantees, and it would, I think, be difficult to obtain from the Porte an assurance that it would not be so applied.

Germany, Turkey's chief supporter in the demand for a higher Tariff, reckons on the improved financial condition of Turkey as a means of securing a satisfactory guarantee for the projected line to Bagdad. She would, therefore, not be likely to support a demand for a self-denying engagement on the part of the Porte in this respect, and, in the absence of unanimity, Turkey would certainly refuse to bind herself.

Your Lordship further inquires whether it would be possible to secure from the Porte the equal distribution of the future grant of a kilometric guarantee among the Powers. I fear that there would be much difficulty in obtaining a clear understanding on this point. A Power having a predominant railway interest in Turkey would naturally expect and demand a guarantee in proportion to the extent of its lines. I do not think, therefore, that Turkey would undertake to assign railway guarantees equally among countries very

* Also to Liverpool Chamber of Commerce. † Copy to Board of Trade, June 23, 1900.

unequally interested in Turkish railways, while, as a matter of fact, there is no British railway in the Ottoman Empire claiming or having right to a kilometric guarantee, nor am I aware of any likely demand for such guarantee in the near future.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

No. 88.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received June 25.)*

(No. 95. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Therapia, June 19, 1900.*

I HAVE the honour to report that in accordance with the desire expressed in your Lordship's telegram No. 18 of the 14th instant, I yesterday strongly urged the Minister for Foreign Affairs to arrange with the Commission that certificates of origin issued by British Chambers of Commerce should be accepted by the Ottoman Customs without other formalities.

As reported to your Lordship in my despatch No. 89 of the 14th instant, I had already urged this point, while, at the same time, asking for an extension of time beyond the month allowed from the 10th instant, and requesting that the regulation should not be applied to small parcels.

Tewfik Pasha promised to bring the matter before the notice of the Commission, and admitted that inasmuch as such certificates were accepted in some other countries it would be reasonable to grant similar treatment in Turkey, but he said that he was unable to say more until he had spoken to the Customs authorities.

I have to-day sent Mr. Block to see the Commissioners and to press for a favourable answer.

Tewfik Pasha added that he expected the Governments of Greece, Roumania, and Servia would at once enter into negotiations for a provisional Commercial Treaty which would probably, if successful, do away with the necessity of certificates of origin. He assured me, however, that in any case such certificates would not be required for goods from the British Colonies or India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

No. 89.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received June 25.)

(No. 97. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Therapia, June 19, 1900.*

I HAVE the honour to report that, notwithstanding the representations made by me, in concert with my French and Russian colleagues and supported by the Austro-Hungarian and Italian Ambassadors, the Sublime Porte insisted on putting into force on the 14th instant the differential Tariff on Greek, Roumanian, and Servian imports.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, whom I saw yesterday, endeavoured to excuse the action of the Porte and their disregard of the representations of the five Powers by saying that it was the only way of compelling the Greek Government to conclude a Treaty of Commerce, and that, so long as they enjoyed the full benefit of the Capitulations, they would evade any definite arrangement, but that now there seemed a fair prospect of the Greek, as well as the Roumanian and Servian Governments, concluding a Provisional Commercial Convention, and that already negotiations to this end were on foot.

No alteration has been made in the Bulgarian Tariff.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

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* Copy to Colonial Office, India Office, and Board of Trade, June 29, 1900.

No. 90.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received June 26.)*

(No. 31. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Constantinople, June 26, 1900.*

WITH reference to my telegram No. 30, Commercial, of the 22nd instant, on the subject of the new certificates of origin, I learn that the Turkish Government insist on the *visa* of the Ottoman Consular authority.

The new Regulation will not be put into force till the 25th July next.

No. 91.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Aathopoulo Pasha.

Your Excellency, *Foreign Office, June 26, 1900.*

IN reply to your Excellency's note of the 15th instant, in which you express the hope of the Turkish Government that Her Majesty's Government will dispatch instructions to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople to promote a speedy settlement of the question of the proposed increase of the Turkish import duties, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that Sir N. O'Conor is already provided with instructions in the sense desired.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 92.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received June 27.)

(No. 101. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, June 22, 1900.*

WITH reference to my despatches Nos. 89 and 95, Commercial, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a *note verbale* which I have addressed to the Sublime Porte on the subject of certificates of origin.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

Inclosure in No. 92.

Note Verbale.

UNDER instructions from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Her Majesty's Ambassador had the honour to point out some days ago to his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs the difficulties and objections which stood in the way of the new order requiring the *visa* of the Ottoman Consular authority to certificates of origin on certain goods exported from Great Britain to Turkey, and to request that certificates from British Chambers of Commerce should be accepted by the Imperial Ottoman Customs without the Consular *visa*.

His Excellency was good enough to encourage the hope that this proposal would be accepted, and to promise to confer on the subject with the Commission appointed to consider the question of the differential Tariff which it was proposed to levy on goods from Greece, Roumania, Servia, and Montenegro.

At the same time Her Majesty's Ambassador drew attention to the excessive burden which the prescribed charge for the Consular *visa* would impose on small parcels, and further expressed the hope that under no circumstances would certificates of origin be required on goods imported from the British Colonies or from India.

* Copy to Board of Trade June 28, 1900.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs replied that he could assure the Ambassador that certificates of origin would not be required on small parcels, though his Excellency was as yet unable to fix the limit of size, or on goods from India or the British Colonies.

The Ambassador, in conclusion, explained to his Excellency that it was materially impossible at such short notice to give such due warning to British shipping as would allow them to procure certificates of origin on goods arriving in Turkey by the 10th proximo, and he asked that the delay should be extended.

No definite answer having been yet received from the Minister for Foreign Affairs on these points, and in view of the importance of letting the British public know as soon as possible the ultimate decision of the Imperial Ottoman Government, Her Majesty's Ambassador would be obliged if his Excellency Tewfik Pasha would enable him to give his Government full information on the subject without delay.

Therapia, June 21, 1900.

No. 93.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 23. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, June 27, 1900.*

FURNISH, as soon as possible, form of certificate of origin referred to in your telegram No. 31, Commercial, of the 26th instant.

No. 94.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received June 29.)*

(No. 33. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Constantinople, June 29, 1900.*

NO special form for the certificates of origin has been prepared; apparently all requirements will be met by a simple declaration as to origin.

No. 95.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.†—(Received July 2.)

(No. 104. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Therapia, June 25, 1900.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Lordship's despatch of this series, No. 64 of the 16th instant, forwarding Messrs. Zossenheim's complaint respecting the new certificates of origin demanded by the Ottoman Government.

It will be seen from the Tariff inclosed in my despatch No. 89 of the 14th instant, that the following are the only descriptions of woollens and cottons which are included in the new Tariff, and which, therefore, will require certificates of origin if exported from England:—

Woollens.—Aba and Shayak, *i.e.*, course woollen goods produced in Bulgaria. It is believed that nothing similar is made in England.

Cotton textiles.—A course cotton cloth also made in Bulgaria, and worn by sailors.

Cotton yarns up to No. 20.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

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* Copy to Board of Trade, June 30, 1900.

† Copy to Board of Trade, July 5, 1900.

No. 96.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 2.)

(No. 109. Commercial.)

Therapia, June 28, 1900.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 81, Commercial, of the 6th June, I have the honour to transmit copy of a note from the Ottoman Foreign Minister to the six Ambassadors, inquiring whether the Powers have yet given their adherence to the Turkish proposal for an increase of the *ad valorem* import duties.

Your Lordship is aware that progress on this question was arrested by the categorical announcement of the Russian Representative at an Ambassador's meeting that his Government would on no account sanction the proposed increase. M. Steherbatchow has since made a similar statement to Tewfik Pasha.

On the receipt of the inclosed note it was suggested that a further meeting of Ambassadors should be held to consider the reply to it; but M. Zinoview, the Russian Ambassador, who has now returned to his post, declared that his instructions would not permit him to take part in any fresh discussion or to join in any collective action in regard to this question.

It appears to me, however, that the Porte is fairly entitled to a reply from the other Powers, and I venture to suggest whether it would not be advisable to record in a note the view which Her Majesty's Government have taken of the matter. I gather from the inclosure to your Lordship's despatch No. 33, Commercial, of the 14th April that the Board of Trade would not be opposed to the higher duty if satisfactory conditions could be obtained. I should be glad, however, of your Lordship's definite instructions on this point and on the conditions, in order that I may embody them, if your Lordship approves of this course, in a note to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

I may add that, as regards the possible negotiations for a Commercial Treaty, Mr. Weakley is engaged on an examination of the various points at issue, as set forth in the Memorandum inclosed in my despatch No. 67, Commercial, of the 8th May.

I have, &c.

(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

Inclosure in No. 96.

Tewfik Pasha to the Six Ambassadors.

LE Soussigné, Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, a reçu la note collective que leurs Excellences MM. les Ambassadeurs d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie, de France, de la Grande-Bretagne, et d'Italie, et M. le Chargé d'Affaires de Russie ont bien voulu lui adresser le 2 du mois écoulé pour lui faire savoir qu'ils se feraient un devoir de soumettre sans délai sa proposition concernant la majoration des droits de douane à l'examen de leurs Gouvernements respectifs, et qu'aussitôt que ceux-ci se seraient prononcés à ce sujet ils s'empresseraient de l'en informer.

Comme depuis plus d'un mois s'est écoulé sans qu'aucune communication ait été faite à ce sujet à la Sublime Porte, le Soussigné a l'honneur de prier leurs Excellences les Ambassadeurs d'Autriche-Hongrie, de France, d'Angleterre, et de Russie, et MM. les Chargés d'Affaires d'Allemagne et d'Italie de vouloir bien lui faire savoir au plus tôt si leurs Gouvernements ont déjà donné leur adhésion à la proposition dont il s'agit.

Le Soussigné saisit, &c.

(Signé) TEWFIK.

Sublime Porte, le 19 Juin, 1900.

No. 97.

Colonial Office to Foreign Office.—(Received July 2.)

Downing Street, June 30, 1900.

Sir,

WITH reference to the letter from this Office of the 18th ultimo, on the subject of the negotiations for the revision of the Turkish Customs Tariff, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Chamberlain to transmit to you, to be laid before the Marquess of Salisbury, copy of a despatch from the High Commissioner of Cyprus, reporting as to the probable effect on Cyprus trade with the Ottoman dominion of the specific Tariff drawn up in 1891.

2. It will be observed that in the opinion of the High Commissioner the Tariff drawn up in 1891 would wholly destroy Cyprus trade with Turkey, and that any increase of the *ad valorem* duties would seriously injure it.

3. In view of the peculiar position of Cyprus in relation to Turkey, and of the fact that the tribute payable by the island to the Sultan was calculated on a revenue which largely depended upon the free market found by Cyprus goods in the Ottoman dominions, Mr. Chamberlain would suggest, for Lord Salisbury's consideration, that the claim of the island to exceptional consideration in regard to any change which would have a serious effect upon its trade, such as the proposed duties on animals, corn, fruit, and wine and spirits, should be strongly pressed in any negotiations with the Porte regarding the revision of the Tariff.

I am, &c.

(Signed) H. BERTRAM COX.

Inclosure 1 in No. 97.

Governor Sir W. Smith to Mr. Chamberlain.

Government House, Nicosia, June 11, 1900.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, marked General, of the 18th ultimo, on the subject of the proposed new Commercial Treaties with Turkey, and inclosing a copy of the revised specific Customs Tariff which was drawn up in 1891.

2. The exports from Cyprus to the Ottoman dominions, which now amount in value to about 56,000*l.* yearly, and which are likely to increase, if not checked by adverse legislation, are for the most part articles which are also produced in the Ottoman dominions. Any increase of the *ad valorem* duties would, therefore, seriously injure this trade.

3. I inclose herewith a tabular statement prepared by the Acting Receiver-General showing the effect which the specific Tariff drawn up in 1891 would have on this trade. In many cases the duties are doubled, trebled, or quadrupled and the Tariff would as against Cyprus operate as a stringent and prohibitive protective Tariff. I believe it is not too much to say that the Tariff if brought into operation would wholly destroy the Cyprus trade with the Ottoman dominions, to the lasting injury of Cyprus.

4. I would venture to bring under your consideration whether, in view of the heavy yearly tribute paid to Turkey by Cyprus, the island is not in justice entitled to be exceptionally considered and exempted from any change which would injure her trade with the country to which the tribute is paid, and whether her special claims to fair commercial treatment may not be properly represented.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. F. HAYNES-SMITH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 97.

EFFECT of proposed Increase of Turkish Import Duties on Cyprus Trade.

Principal Exports from Cyprus to Turkey in 1899.			Turkish Import Duties.	
Articles.	Quantity.	Value in sterling.	Present Rate at 8 per cent. *ad valorem.*	Proposed or Increased Rate approximatively.
Animals—		£		
Horses	No. .. 53	145	10 c. p.	324 c. p. per head.
Mules	„ .. 234	919	58 „	97 „ „
Camels	„ .. 86	250	43 „	102 „ „
Donkeys	„ .. 2,526	3,911	22 „	32 „ „
Oxen	„ .. 20	53	30 „	100 „ „
Carobs	Tons .. 116	330	7 „	32 c. p.
Corn—				
Wheat	Kile .. 16,307	2,771	..	..
Barley	„ .. 99,730	7,818	7 c. p.	7 c. p. per 100 kilog. = 5 kele.
Oats	„ .. 1,522	101	7 „	7 „ „
Flour	Cwt. .. 3,222	797	12 „	14½ „ „
Beans and peas	„ .. 1,105	124	6 „	11 15/40 „
Cheese	„ .. 1,747	2,123	46 „	81 „ „
Fruit—				
Grapes	„ .. 140	12	8 „	24 c. p. per 100 kilog.
Oranges	No. .. 982,654	539	12 „	21 „ „
Pommegranates	Cwt. .. 34	1	4 „	60 „ „
Raisins	„ .. 15,387	4,405	12 „	73 c. p.
Poultry	No. .. 1,140	69	30 paras per head	0 32/00 per head.
Spirits, raki	Gallons 88,324	4,943	18 c. p.	162 c. p.
Brandy, in wood	„ 4,254	271	36 „	343 c. p. in bottles.
Wine	„ 349,852	8,464	8 „	140 c. p.
Vinegar	„ 77,727	943	3 „	21 „
Cotton	Cwt. .. 75	54	45 „	61 „
Flax	„ .. 2,202	598	10 „	32½ „
Silk cocoons	Okes .. 577	250	340 „	388 „
Silk, raw	„ .. 21	21	£6	27
Aniseed	Cwt. .. 243	280	12–18 c. p.	50 „
Sesame	„ .. 153	102	15 „	22½ „
Straw	„ .. 17,614	552	1 „	4 „
Sumac leaves	„ .. 7,593	1,239	3 „	13 „
Gypsum stone	Tons .. 20	3	1 „	3½ „
„ „ manufactured ..	„ .. 100	98	1 „	3½ „
Cotton manufactures ..	.. ..	251	100 „	202 „
Earthenware	.. ..	143	4 „	20 „
Leather, sole	Cwt. .. 26	113	120–300 „	200–700 „
„ boots	Pairs .. 343	23	250–500 „	1,458 „
Total	..	43,440		
Total exports to Turkey ..	..	71,398*		

* Inclusive of specie, 15,288*l.*

No. 98.

*Foreign Office to Bristol Chamber of Commerce.**

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 2, 1900.

WITH reference to my letter of the 21st ultimo, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to inform you that Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople reports that, in spite of his representations, the Porte insists on the Consular *visa* for certificates of origin for certain goods imported into Turkey, but that the new Regulation will not come into force till the 25th instant.

* Also to Liverpool and Bradford Chambers of Commerce.

There is no special form for the certificates of origin, a simple declaration being apparently all that is required.

I am, &c.
(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

No. 99.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 77. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, July 3, 1900.

Sir,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch No. 101, Commercial, of the 22nd ultimo, inclosing copy of a note which you addressed to the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs in regard to the new order requiring the *visa* of the Ottoman Consular authority to certificates of origin on certain goods imported from Great Britain into Turkey.

I approve the terms of this communication.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 100.

Foreign Office to Messrs. J. Zossenheim and Partners.

Foreign Office, July 5, 1900.

Gentlemen,

WITH reference to my letter of the 16th ultimo, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to inform you that Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople reports that the following are the only descriptions of woollens and cottons which are included in the new Turkish differential Tariff, and which will therefore require certificates of origin if exported from this country:—

1. *Woollens*:—Abi and Shayak, *i.e.*, coarse woollen goods produced in Bulgaria. It is believed that nothing similar is made in England.

2. *Cotton textiles*:—A coarse cotton cloth also made in Bulgaria, and worn by sailors.

3. *Cotton yarns* up to No. 20

I am, &c.
(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN

No. 101.

Foreign Office to Board of Trade.

Foreign Office, July 6, 1900.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter of the 28th April last, and subsequent correspondence, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit herewith, to be laid before the Board of Trade, copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople,* asking for definite instructions as to the reply to be made to the Turkish proposal for an increase of the *ad valorem* import duties.

Lord Salisbury is disposed to instruct Sir N. O'Conor to inform the Porte that Her Majesty's Government are prepared to accept the Turkish proposal on the following conditions:—

1. That the increased rate of duty shall be accepted also by all the other Powers.

2. That sufficient notice shall be given before the new rate actually comes into force, so as to enable traders to be prepared for the change.

3. That the Porte shall give satisfactory assurances with regard to the prompt construction of lights in the Red Sea, and that no extra dues shall be levied on this account.

* No. 96.

4. That the Porte shall initiate the reforms suggested in paragraphs (*c*) and (*d*) of the letter from the Board of Trade of the 28th April last in regard to certain matters connected with the Ottoman Customs.

5. That an understanding shall be arrived at upon the three points enumerated in the collective Resolution adopted by the Ambassadors on the 1st May, and inclosed in Sir N. O'Conor's despatch No. 64, Commercial, of the 2nd May, which was forwarded to the Board in my letter of the 17th of that month.

6. That the Porte shall give an assurance that the question of the rates of the Sanitary dues levied on shipping in Turkish waters shall eventually be considered at an opportune moment.

7. That special treatment shall be accorded to Cyprus as suggested in the letter from the Colonial Office of which a copy is inclosed.*

Lord Salisbury would be glad to be informed whether the Board concur in instructions being sent to Sir N. O'Conor in this sense.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 102.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.†—*(Received July 9.)*

(No. 112. Commercial.)

Therapia, July 3, 1900.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of the Sublime Porte's reply to my *note verbale* on the subject of certificates of origin, copy of which accompanied my despatch No. 101, Commercial, of the 22nd ultimo.

While stating that the new measures will not be enforced until the 25th instant, and that parcels sent by parcels post will not require certificates of origin, this communication makes no mention of the exemption of imports from India or the Colonies, regarding which I had, as reported in my despatch No. 95 of the 19th ultimo, received satisfactory assurances from the Minister of Foreign Affairs. I am inclined to believe, however, that the Ottoman Government will not ignore these assurances, but, should the case occur, I will not fail to remind his Excellency of his promises.

I regret to say that I was unable to obtain the consent of the Sublime Porte to accept certificates issued by the Chambers of Commerce unprovided with the *visa* of the Ottoman Consul. The Minister said that, although the request in itself was unobjectionable as regards Great Britain, it would lead to similar applications from other countries which it would be impossible to agree to.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

Inclosure in No. 102.

Note Verbale.

LE Ministère des Affaires Étrangères a reçu la note verbale que l'Ambassade de Sa Majesté Britannique a bien voulu lui adresser en date du 21 Juin, au sujet de la formalité de certificat d'origine exigible des marchandises similaires à celles contenues dans le nouveau Tarif qui vient d'être appliqué à certaines provenances.

En réponse, le Ministère Impérial s'empresse de déclarer que, dans son désir d'éviter toute entrave au commerce pouvant provenir de la mise en application partielle du Tarif en question, le Gouvernement Impérial a décidé de prolonger de quinze jours encore le délai d'un mois accordé déjà pour la présentation de certificats d'origine, donnant ainsi pleine et entière satisfaction à toutes les exigences. Quant aux certificats d'origine concernant les colis postaux, la Sublime Porte, pensant que la déclaration émanée du bureau postal expéditeur et qui accompagne ces envois suffit à en établir le lieu d'origine, a décrété l'exemption pure et simple des colis

* No. 97.

† Copy to Colonial Office, India Office, and Board of Trade, July 18, 1900.

postaux d'une telle formalité. Dans cet état de choses, la mesure dont il s'agit se réduit à la limite extrême qu'impose au Gouvernement la nécessité de protéger les intérêts du fisc Impérial.

Sublime Porte, le 30 Juin, 1900.

No. 103.

*Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.**—*(Received July 14.)*

(No. 114. Commercial.)

Therapia, July 7, 1900.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 112 of the 3rd instant respecting certificates of origin, I have the honour to transmit copy of a further *note verbale* from the Sublime Porte, in which it is notified that, besides parcels arriving by parcels post, samples, as well as passenger's personal luggage, are exempted from the new requirement. It is further stated in this communication that should there be no Ottoman Consular officer at the port of shipment certificates issued by the local authority will be accepted without any Consular *visa*.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

Inclosure in No. 103.

Note Verbale.

(Circulaire.)

FAISANT suite à sa note verbale en date du 30 Juin, et en vue de dissiper les doutes qui pourraient subsister, le Ministère des Affaires Étrangères a l'honneur d'informer l'Ambassade de Sa Majesté Britannique que la formalité des certificats d'origine n'étant applicable qu'aux marchandises destinées au commerce proprement dit, les colis postaux, les échantillons et tous objets que les voyageurs apporteraient pour leur usage personnel à leur arrivée en Turquie en seront exempts. Quant à l'obligation de faire légaliser ces certificats par les Consulats Ottomans, elle ne serait de rigueur, qu'autant qu'un Consulat Impérial existerait au lieu d'expédition de la marchandise exportée pour la Turquie. Néanmoins, en l'absence de la légalisation du Consulat Ottoman, s'est celle de l'autorité locale qui en tiendra lieu, les certificats d'origine émanés des bureaux de douane expéditeurs ne pouvant qu'à cette condition revêtir le caractère d'authenticité exigible pour leur validité.

Sublime Porte, le 4 Juillet, 1900.

No. 104.

Colonial Office to Foreign Office.—*(Received July 12.)*

Downing Street, July 11, 1900.

Sir,

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Chamberlain to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th June, transmitting a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador in Turkey with respect to the acceptance by the Ottoman Empire of certificates of origin issued by the British Chambers of Commerce, and I am to ask that this Department may be informed whether it may be presumed that the assurance given by Tewfik Pasha that such certificates would not be required for goods from the British Colonies or India extends to Cyprus.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. BERTRAM COX.

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* Copy to Board of Trade, July 16, 1900.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

No. 105

Board of Trade to Foreign Office.—(Received July 14.)

Board of Trade, July 13, 1900.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Board of Trade to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant, with its inclosures, relative to the proposed increase of the Turkish *ad valorem* import duties, and, in reply, I am to state that the Board concur with the instructions which Lord Salisbury proposes to send to Sir N. O'Conor with regard to this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. E. BATEMAN.

No. 106.

Foreign Office to Bristol Chamber of Commerce.[1]

Foreign Office, July 14, 1900.

Sir,

WITH reference to my letter of the 2nd instant, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to inform you that Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople has been informed by the Porte that the Regulations relative to certificates of origin only apply to goods intended for commerce properly so called, and that packets sent by parcel post, samples, and passenger's personal luggage are exempt from the requirement.

It is further stated that should there be no Ottoman Consular officer at the port of shipment, certificates issued by the local authority will be accepted without any Consular visa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

No. 107.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 83. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, July 17, 1900.

Sir,

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch No. 95, Commercial, of the 19th ultimo, I request that you will ascertain whether the assurance given to your Excellency by Tewfik Pasha, that certificates of origin will not be required for goods from the British Colonies or India extends to Cyprus.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 108.

Foreign Office to Bristol Chamber of Commerce.[*]

Foreign Office, July 17, 1900.

Sir,

WITH reference to my letter of the 2nd (5th) instant, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to inform you that a further despatch has been received from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople reporting the result of his representations to the Turkish Government in regard to certificates of origin required by the Porte.

While stating that the new measures will not be enforced until the 25th instant, and that parcels sent by parcels post will not require certificates of origin, the Turkish Government have made no mention of the exemption of imports from India or the Colonies.

* Also to Liverpool and Bradford Chambers of Commerce.

Her Majesty's Ambassador was, however, unable to obtain an express assurance that certificates issued by the Chamber of Commerce unprovided with the *visa* of the Ottoman Consul would be accepted.

I am, &c.
(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

No. 109.

Messrs. Reich and Co. to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 18.)

3, *East India Avenue, Leadenhall Street, London,*
July 17, 1900.

Your Lordship,

FOR several years past we have been engaged in exporting goods to Turkey, and we have recently seen from newspapers, and have been informed from other sources that, owing to differences between the Turkish Government and some of the Balkan States with regard to import duties, in many cases the Turkish Custom authorities require certificates of origin to be made out for British goods. On hearing this we applied to the Turkish Consul in London for information, but could not obtain from this gentleman a list of goods to which this Regulation applied. We therefore respectfully beg to ask if your Lordship will be good enough to direct that a list of goods for which Consular certificates are required be sent us.

There is also another point about which we cannot get any definite information, and we should be extremely grateful if your Lordship would clear it up for us. We ship goods to Turkey not only from London but from other ports in the United Kingdom such as Glasgow and Liverpool, and what we wish to know is will it be necessary to obtain certificates for goods from the Customs authorities in the actual port of shipment. For example, we have an order for galvanized sheets which we are about to ship from Liverpool. In the first place, we do not know if certificates of origin are required for galvanized sheets at all, but if this should be the case would your Lordship be good enough to inform us whether the certificate of origin must be made out by the Liverpool Custom-house or from whom this be obtainable, and does the certificate then require the *visé* of the Turkish Consul.

We beg, &c.
(Signed) G. REICH AND CO.

No. 110.

Liverpool Chamber of Commerce to Foreign Office.—(Received July 18.)

Liverpool, July 18, 1900.

(Telegraphic.)

TURKISH Consul, Liverpool, refuses to accept Chamber of Commerce certificates origin. Please telegraph whether Regulations permitting issue Chamber certificate appearing "Board Trade Journal" the 28th June, is revoked.

No. 111.

Foreign Office to Liverpool Chamber of Commerce.

(Commercial.)

Foreign Office, July 18, 1900.

(Telegraphic.)

CERTIFICATE of Chamber of Commerce not admitted without *visa* of Ottoman Consul, except in the case of ports of shipment where there is no Ottoman Consul.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

No. 112.

Liverpool Chamber of Commerce to Foreign Office.—(*Received July* 21.)

Liverpool, July 19, 1900.

Sir,

I HAVE to acknowledge receipt of your telegram *re* certificates of origin, Turkey, for which I have to thank you.

The information therein contained, however, is only a repetition of that given in your letters of the 14th and 17th instant on the subject.

The question at issue is that the Turkish Consul here refuses his *visa* to certificates of origin issued by the Chamber, on the ground that the only competent authority for such issue is the Collector of Customs.

If the permission given to Chambers of Commerce to issue such certificates, as notified in the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 28th June, has not been revoked, I am to ask that your Department will request the Turkish Minister or Consul-General in London to communicate with the Turkish Consul here on the subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS H. BARKER,
Secretary.

Inclosure in No. 112.

Telegram to Liverpool Chamber of Commerce.

CERTIFICATES of Chambers of Commerce not admitted without *visa* of Ottoman Consul except in the cases of ports of shipment where there is no Ottoman Consul.

No. 113.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 25. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July* 21, 1900.

TURKISH Consul at Liverpool refuses *visa* to certificates of origin issued by Chamber of Commerce, and will only recognize those issued by Collector of Customs.

Ask that instructions be sent to recognize certificates issued by any British Chambers of Commerce.

Report result by telegraph.

No. 114.

Foreign Office to Liverpool Chamber of Commerce.

Foreign Office, July 21, 1900.

Sir;

IN reply to your letter of the 19th instant, relating to the refusal of the Turkish Consul to *visé* certificates of origin issued by your Chamber, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to inform you that a telegram has been dispatched to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople requesting him to ask the Ottoman Government to send instructions to their Consuls to recognize certificates of origin issued by any British Chamber of Commerce.

I am, &c.

(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

No. 115.

*Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.**—(*Received July* 23.)

(No. 37. Commercial.)
(Telegraphic.) *Therapia, July* 23, 1900.

WITH reference to your telegram No. 25, Commercial, of the 21st instant, instructions were telegraphed on the 22nd instant to Ottoman Ambassador in London requesting him to inform Ottoman Consuls that they should legalize certificates of origin issued by British Chambers of Commerce.

No. 116.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 87. Commercial.)
Foreign Office, July 23, 1900.

Sir,

HER Majesty's Government have had under their consideration your Excellency's despatch No 109, Commercial, of the 28th ultimo, in which you ask for definite instructions as to the reply which your Excellency should make to the proposal of the Ottoman Government for an increase of the *ad valorem* import. I now request that your Excellency will inform the Porte that Her Majesty's Government are prepared to accept the Turkish proposal on the following conditions:—

1. That the increased rate of duty shall be accepted also by all the other Powers.

2. That sufficient notice shall be given before the new rate actually comes into force, so as to enable traders to be prepared for the change.

3. That the Porte shall give satisfactory assurances with regard to the prompt construction of lights in the Red Sea, and that no extra dues shall be levied on this account.

4. That the Porte shall initiate the reforms suggested in paragraphs (*c*) and (*d*) of the letter from the Board of Trade of the 28th April last, inclosed in my despatch No. 45 A, Commercial, in regard to certain matters connected with the Ottoman Customs.

5. That an understanding shall be arrived at upon the four points enumerated in the collective Resolution adopted by the Ambassadors on the 1st May, and inclosed in your Excellency's despatch No. 64, Commercial, of the 2nd May.

6. That the Porte shall give an assurance that the question of the rates of the Sanitary dues levied on shipping in Turkish waters shall eventually be considered at an opportune moment.

7. That special treatment shall be accorded to Cyprus, as suggested in the letter from the Colonial Office, of which a copy is inclosed.†

Your Excellency will understand that the above are the points to which Her Majesty's Government attach importance in connection with the question, and that they would desire to receive satisfactory assurances in regard to all of them before expressing a definite assent, in advance to the proposed increase of dues. If, however, your Excellency should think that some of these points might more judiciously be reserved for ulterior consideration, I shall be prepared to consider any suggestions in this respect which you may send to me by telegraph.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

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* Copy to Board of Trade, July 23, 1900.

† No. 97.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

No. 117.

Foreign Office to Liverpool Chamber of Commerce.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 23, 1900.*

WITH reference to my letter of the 21st instant, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to inform you that a telegram has now been received from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, stating that, as a result of his Excellency's representations, the Porte desired the Turkish Ambassador in London by telegraph on the 20th instant to instruct Turkish Consuls to *visa* certificates of origin issued by British Chambers of Commerce.

I am, &c.
(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

No. 118.

Foreign Office to Messrs. Reich and Co.

Gentlemen, *Foreign Office, July 24, 1900.*

IN reply to your letter of the 17th instant I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to state that complete information on the subject of certificates of origin required by the Turkish Government will be found on p. 680 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 28th June, 1900, which can be obtained through any bookseller for the price of one penny.

I am, however, to add that since the publication of the journal Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople has reported that the certificates of Chambers of Commerce will not be admitted without the *visa* of the Ottoman Consul, except in the case of ports of shipment where no such Consul exists.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ST. JOHN BRODRICK.

No. 119.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 30.)*

(No. 117. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Therapia, July 24, 1900.*

IN consequence of representations which I made on receipt of a telegram from the Acting Consul-General at Salonica, reporting that the Turkish Consul-General at Liverpool had refused to *visé* a general certificate of origin for the whole cargo of a ship bound for Salonica, the Minister of Foreign Affairs has instructed the Ottoman Consul-General by telegraph that one certificate suffices for the whole cargo of a ship bound for a Turkish port.

I have, &c.
(For the Ambassador),
(Signed) G. BARCLAY.

No. 120.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.†—(Received August 7.)

(No. 121. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Therapia, July 31, 1900.*

I HAVE the honour to report, in reply to your Lordship's despatch No. 83, Commercial, of the 17th instant, that on my inquiring of the Minister for Foreign Affairs whether the assurances given me that certificates of origin would not be

* Copy to Board of Trade, July 31, 1900.
† Copy to Colonial Office, August 9, 1900.

required for goods from India or the Colonies, extended to Cyprus, his Excellency, while not giving a decided answer, intimated that he did not think the concession could be properly claimed for Cyprus, owing to the ease with which goods could be imported from Greece into the island for re-exportation to Turkey. On further inquiry at the Customs and at the Commission sitting to consider matters relating to certificates of origin, I find that certificates are required for Cyprus in the same way as for Samos and Crete.

The view expressed to me by Tewfik Pasha seems to me reasonable, and I do not propose to press the matter unless instructed by your Lordship to do so.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

No. 121.

Sir N. O'Conor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 13.)

(No. 122. Commercial.)
My Lord, *Therapia, August 6, 1900.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 87, Commercial, of the 23rd ultimo, respecting the reply to be returned to the proposal of the Ottoman Government for the increase of the *ad valorem* import duty from 8 per cent. to 11 per cent.

When I suggested in my despatch No. 109 that our reply should take the form of a *note verbale*, embodying the conditions on which we should have been ready to accept the proposed increase, I did not anticipate that the demands of Her Majesty's Government would go further than those enumerated in my despatch No. 64 of the 2nd May last as having been agreed upon by the Ambassadors here, and my intention in making the suggestion was that we should show the Porte that we at least had been disposed to give our favourable consideration to their wishes, and that the breakdown of the negotiations was in no way attributable to the attitude of Her Majesty's Government.

A *note verbale* containing all the conditions enumerated in your Lordship's despatch would be far from convincing to the Porte as an expression of our friendly disposition in the matter, and now that owing to the attitude of the Russian Government the negotiations have collapsed, and the question of the proposed increase no longer possesses any but an academic interest, I cannot think that a *note verbale* on the lines indicated would serve any useful purpose.

I have informed the Minister of Foreign Affairs to-day that Her Majesty's Government had no objection in principle to the proposed increase, and that for their part they would have been quite ready to fall in with the Porte's wishes, provided that certain reasonable demands were complied with. I consider that, in the circumstances, this verbal reply will be sufficient, and I have told Tewfik Pasha that in view of the refusal of Russia to proceed with the negotiations I do not propose to continue the correspondence.

With regard to the seventh of the demands enumerated in your Lordship's despatch respecting the interests of Cyprus trade, I shall be careful not to lose sight of the matter should negotiations be opened for a Commercial Treaty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

No. 122.

*Foreign Office to Board of Trade.**

Sir, *Foreign Office, August 22, 1900.*

WITH reference to the letter from this Department of the 16th instant respecting commercial negotiations with Turkey, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit to you, for the information of the Board of Trade, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople recording the steps which he has taken in this

* Also to Colonial Office.

matter;* and I am to add that Lord Salisbury proposes, with the concurrence of the Board of Trade, to approve Sir N. O'Conor's action.

A similar letter has been addressed to the Colonial Office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

No. 123.

Board of Trade to Foreign Office.—(Received August 27.)

Board of Trade, August 25, 1900.

Sir,

I AM in reply to your letter of the 22nd instant respecting the negotiations with Turkey on the question of the suggested increase of the Turkish general *ad valorem* rate of import duty, I am directed by the Board of Trade to state that, in view of the observations contained in the despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, which was inclosed with your letter, they concur in Lord Salisbury's proposal to approve Sir N. O'Conor's action in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. E. BATEMAN.

No. 124.

India Office to Foreign Office.†—(Received August 31.)

India Office, August 30, 1900.

Sir,

I AM continuation of Sir Arthur Godley's letters of the 14th and 28th May last, I am directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to forward, for submission to the Marquess of Salisbury, a copy of a letter from the Government of India on the subject of the proposed increase of the Turkish import duties from 8 to 11 per cent. *ad valorem*.

Lord George Hamilton observes that the concessions which, in the opinion of the Government of India, should, if possible, be obtained from the Ottoman Government, in return for the assent of the Powers to the higher duties, are included amongst those specified in the Marquess of Salisbury's instructions sent to Sir N. O'Conor on the 23rd July last.

Lord George Hamilton trusts that if the negotiations should lead to the consideration of a specific Tariff, due weight will be given to the objections urged by the Government of India, in the third and fourth paragraphs of their letter, to specific rates, especially if based on present prices.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HORACE WALPOLE.

Inclosure in No. 124.

Government of India to Lord G. Hamilton.

Simla, July 26, 1900.

My Lord,

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch, dated the 7th June last, regarding certain intended changes in the Turkish Import Tariff. It appears that the Turkish Government have proposed to increase provisionally from 8 to 11 per cent. the *ad valorem* rate of customs duty on goods imported into Turkey, and to resume negotiations for the conclusion of Commercial Treaties with the Powers and for the introduction ultimately of a specific Tariff.

2. We do not object to the proposed increase of import duty from 8 to 11 per cent. It would have been satisfactory if the assent of the Powers to this measure could have been made conditional on the improvement of the lighting of the Red Sea; but we recognize that this may not be possible. We think, however, that some substantial return should be obtained for this concession, and would, therefore, suggest that the

* No. 121.

† Copy to Board of Trade, September 4, 1900.

revision of the Turkish Customs procedure and charges, including portérage, a measure which is of the highest importance, should be insisted on as far as possible. We believe that, before the abandonment of negotiations for the Commercial Treaty, substantial progress had been made in the settlement of a draft of revised Customs Regulations which, if finally accepted, would have met the views of the Powers, and we think it should not be impossible to induce the Government of Turkey to give its assent to those Regulations or, at any rate, the important part of them.

3. We should strongly demur to the imposition of specific duties, especially if the rates are based on present prices. According to the figures given by the Board of Trade, rates framed on such a basis would be equivalent to the under-mentioned *ad valorem* rates for articles of Indian origin mentioned by the Board. There are other articles in the Turkish Import Tariff in which India is interested, but for which figures have not been given; but it is probable that the incidence would, on the whole, be quite as high as in the instances we now quote:—

	Per cent.
Rice	6
Coffee	18
Tea	31
Indigo	11
Hides	10
Wool	9
Jute goods	12
Cotton yarn	11
Cotton goods (grey and white)	18
" " (coloured)	22

4. Specific duties have the further disadvantage that they press with unequal weight on goods of inferior descriptions, and, therefore, Indian goods will, in many cases, be handicapped in competition with similar goods from other countries, which are often of better quality. It is evident that if negotiations with the Turkish Government for Commercial Treaties are to be reopened on the basis of a specific Tariff, the Tariff formerly agreed to must be carefully revised.

We have, &c.
(Signed) CURZON OF KEDLESTON.
E. H. H. COLLEN.
A. C. TREVOR.
C. M. RIVAZ.
T. RALEIGH.
E. Fg. LAW.

No. 125.

Colonial Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 1.)

Downing Street, August 31, 1900.

Sir,

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Chamberlain to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd instant, transmitting a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, recording the steps taken by him in connection with the commercial negotiations with Turkey, and I am to request that you will state to the Marquess of Salisbury that Mr. Chamberlain concurs in his Lordship's proposal to approve Sir N. O'Conor's action in the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. BERTRAM COX.

No. 126.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Conor.

(No. 100. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, September 3, 1900.

Sir,

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch No. 122, Commercial, of the 6th ultimo, reporting your attitude in the recent negotiations with the Turkish Govern-

ment in regard to the proposal of the Sublime Porte to increase the *ad valorem* import duty from 8 to 11 per cent.

I approve the action which your Excellency has taken in the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 127.

Colonial Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 28.)

Sir, *Downing Street, September 27, 1900.*

WITH reference to your letter of the 9th ultimo, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Chamberlain to transmit to you, to be laid before the Marquess of Salisbury, copy of a despatch from the High Commissioner of Cyprus on the subject of the requirement of certificates of origin in the case of goods exported from Cyprus to Turkey.

2. With regard to paragraph 3 of the despatch, I am to state that the High Commissioner has now been informed that the commercial negotiations with Turkey have broken down for the present, but that if they should be reopened, the interests of Cyprus will not be lost sight of.

I am, &c.
(Signed) C. P. LUCAS.

Inclosure in No. 127.

High Commissioner Sir W. Smith to Mr. Chamberlain.

Sir, *Government Cottage, Troodos, September 6, 1900.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 17th August last, inclosing copies of a correspondence relative to the question whether the assurances given by the Ottoman Government that certificates of origin would not be required from India or the Colonies extended to Cyprus.

2. I would warmly urge that certificates of origin should not be required for the exports of Cyprus imported into Turkey, or that if such a requirement be enforced, that the Turkish authorities, as in the case of France, would accept certificates of origin issued by the Customs authorities of Cyprus when stamped with the seal of the Customs. If either of these courses is not followed, the trade and the Government will be greatly embarrassed, and we shall be entangled with having to deal with Turkish Consuls or Agents in Cyprus, who certainly would not add to the facility of administration. The Turkish authorities now have an Agent at Larnaca, and difficulty has already arisen with respect to his interference.

3. I would venture again to point out that, if the terms of the proposed new Commercial Treaty with Turkey be applied to Cyprus, a very serious injury will be inflicted on the island, and a trade ruined which may be greatly developed. It seems particularly hard that this should be the case while Cyprus has to pay a heavy tribute to Turkey, and I would ask whether, in fairness to Cyprus, a special commercial arrangement might not be made with Turkey in the very exceptional circumstances of this particular case. I would hope that you may consider it reasonable that representations may be made with a view of obtaining better treatment, as there is no other country which stands in the same relation to Turkey, and the alteration of import duties alters the basis on which the amount of the tribute was determined, for the proposed new Tariff would be a highly protective Tariff against the products of Cyprus, whereas the tribute was based on the condition and trade of the island, and when there was a Tariff of 8 per cent. on imports into Turkey, which admitted of an export trade from Cyprus to the country to which the tribute is paid. It would fall very hardly on the island if Turkey kills this trade to the detriment of Cyprus, unless the amount of the tribute be also readjusted, as the altered circumstances may make just.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. F. HAYNES SMITH.

No. 128.

Board of Trade to Foreign Office.—(Received October 1.)

Board of Trade, September 15, 1900.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Board of Trade to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, forwarding copy of a despatch from the Government of India relative to certain proposed changes in the Turkish Import Tariff, and asking for the observations of the Board thereupon.

In reply, I am to state, with regard to paragraphs 3 and 4 of the despatch in question, that while not prepared to concur with the Government of India in objecting to the principle of specific duties (to which, as Lord Salisbury is aware, Her Majesty's Government, in common with the other Powers, is already practically committed), the Board agree that the incidence of the suggested Tariff on the more important classes of exports from British India should be carefully borne in mind in negotiations between Her Majesty's Government and the Porte. In this connection I am directed to inclose, for Lord Salisbury's information, a statement prepared in this Department giving the quantities and values of a few of the principal articles exported from India to Turkey, with the estimated *ad valorem* equivalents of the duties that would be imposed on them under the specific Tariff provisionally agreed to in 1885, on the basis of their average export values as shown in the Indian Trade Accounts. Though, for reasons stated in a note on the Table, the *ad valorem* equivalents obtained in this way are slightly too high, they will probably afford useful guidance in any negotiations which may take place.

The Board of Trade would suggest especially that efforts should be made to secure some reduction in respect of the proposed duties on jute manufactures, tea, and pepper, all of which, as will be seen, form important items in the exports from India to Turkey, while the duties on them under the proposed Tariff would greatly exceed 11 per cent. As regards cotton goods, Lord Salisbury's attention has already been directed to the necessity of obtaining a reduction of the proposed duties in the letter addressed to you from this Department on the 28th April last.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. LLEWELLYN SMITH.

Inclosure in No. 128.

TABLE showing the principal Articles of Export from British India to Turkey and the Rates of Customs Duty which would be leviable thereon under the proposed Specific Tariff, together with their estimated *ad valorem* Equivalents.

Article.	Exports from British India to Turkey (1898-99). Quantities.		Values.	Average Value. Rupees.		English Equivalents.	Rates of Duty under Turkish Revised Tariff (F.O. Print of 1891). Tariff Rates.		English Equivalents.		Estimated *ad valorem* Rate on basis of average Value (see Foot-note), 1898-99.
			Rupees.		Rupees.			Prs. c.		£ s. d.	Per cent.
Coffee	Cwts. ..	19	843	Per cwt. ..	41·37	Per cwt. ..	100 kilog. ..	110·00	Cwt. ..	0 10 1	17
Rice	.. ..	9,887	52,518	.. .. ..	5·31	.. .. ..	.. ..	10 50	.. ..	0 0 11½	13½
Tea	Lbs. ..	3,134,875	1,268,995	.. lb. ..	0·10	.. lb. ..	.. ..	400·00	.. ..	1 16 8	61
Indigo	Cwts. ..	6,429	1,558,873	.. cwt. ..	242·17	.. cwt. ..	.. ..	400·00	.. ..	1 16 8	11
Hides (raw)	.. ..	1,059	41,770	.. .. ..	39·45	.. .. ..	.. ..	40 00	.. ..	0 3 8	..
Wool (no exports given for 1898-99)											
Jute manufactures—											
Gunny bags	No. ..	6,339,854	1,363,496	Each ..	0·21	Each ..	.. ..	36·00	.. ..	0 3 3½	26†
Gunny cloth	Yards ..	247,000	19,340	Per yard ..	0·08	Per yard ..	.. ..	36·00	.. ..	0 3 3½	..
Cotton yarn	Lbs. ..	1,101,887	469,508	.. lb. ..	0·31	.. lb. ..	.. ..	102·00*	.. ..	0 9 5*	20
Cotton piece-goods ..	Yards ..	2,711,831	315,426	.. yard ..	0·15	.. yard ..	.. ..	260·00*	.. ..	1 5 8½*	..
Pepper	Lbs. ..	966,070	241,665	.. lb. ..	0·25	.. lb. ..	.. ..	90 00	.. ..	0 8 3	22
Silk piece-goods	Yards ..	73,824	67,523	.. yard ..	0·85	.. yard ..	.. ..	3,600·00	Lb. ..	0 2 11½	..
Grain and pulse (other than rice)	Cwts. ..	19,709	58,173	.. cwt. ..	5·43	.. cwt. ..	.. ..	..	.. ..	..	..
Fruits and vegetables, dried, &c.	.. ..	19,163	99,634	.. .. ..	5·19	.. .. ..	.. ..	..	.. ..	..	..

* Average duty on the various classes of these goods specified in the Turkish Tariff.

† Assuming 2½ lbs. as the average weight of a gunny bag.

NOTE.—The *ad valorem* equivalents stated in the above Table having been calculated on the *export* values of the goods in India are slightly higher than the actual rates calculated on the import values (including freight, &c.) of the same goods in Turkey.

No. 129.

Mr. de Bunsen to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 1.)*

(No. 141. Commercial.)

Constantinople, September 26, 1900.

My Lord,

ALTHOUGH no further request has been addressed to this Embassy since the date of the communications which passed in respect of the proposed increase of the Turkish *ad valorem* Tariff, inviting us to resume our negotiations for a new Commercial Treaty, I think it my duty to report to your Lordship that the Sublime Porte is still engaged upon the question of bringing about the introduction of the specific Tariff by means of fresh Treaties with the Powers

The French negotiation has made considerable progress, all the Articles of the new draft Treaty having been initialled and referred to Paris for approval. The Russian Embassy, on the other hand, after a vain attempt to come to terms, has abruptly retired from the negotiation. The Sublime Porte has now approached the Austro-Hungarian Embassy on the subject, but I learn that Baron de Calice has replied in a note declaring that he must demand as a preliminary to any resumption of negotiations that Turkey should first give satisfaction to his Government in respect of the various claims which he has lately been pressing on the attention of the Sublime Porte.

I have, &c.

(Signed) M. DE BUNSEN.

No. 130.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Mr. de Bunsen.

(No. 114. Commercial.)

Foreign Office, October 3, 1900.

Sir,

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, copy of a letter from the Colonial Office respecting the requirement of certificates of origin in the case of goods exported from Cyprus to Turkey.†

With regard to paragraph 2 of High Commissioner's despatch therein inclosed, I assume that certificates of origin issued in Cyprus by the Customs authorities without the intervention of the Turkish Agent at Larnaca are accepted by the Ottoman Customs.

In the contrary event you should take such action as may be necessary to secure the acceptance of such certificates.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 131.

Foreign Office to Colonial Office.

Foreign Office, October 3, 1900.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to state, for the information of Mr. Secretary Chamberlain, that a copy of your letter of the 27th ultimo respecting the requirement of certificates of origin in the case of goods exported from Cyprus to Turkey has been forwarded to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople, for his information.

I am to add that Mr. de Bunsen's attention has at the same time been drawn to paragraph 2 of the High Commissioner's despatch, copy of which you inclosed, and he has been informed that his Lordship assumes that certificates of origin issued in Cyprus by the Customs authorities without the intervention of the Turkish Agent at Larnaca are accepted by the Ottoman Customs.

In the contrary event Mr. de Bunsen has been instructed to take such action as may be necessary to secure the acceptance of such certificates.

I am, &c.

(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

* Copies to Board of Trade and Colonial Office, October 6, 1900.

† No. 127.

No. 132.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Mr. de Bunsen.

(No. 118. Commercial.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, October 10, 1900.*

WITH reference to your despatch No. 141, Commercial, of the 26th ultimo, I transmit herewith, for your information and guidance in any negotiations which may ensue with Turkey for the conclusion of a Treaty of Commerce, copies of letters from the India Office and Board of Trade respecting the Turkish Tariff.*

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 133.

Mr. de Bunsen to the Marquess of Salisbury.†—(Received November 5.)

(No. 151. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Therapia, October 29, 1900.*

IN reply to the inquiries which I caused to be made on receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 114, Commercial, of the 3rd instant, I learn that the origin of goods from Cyprus need not be attested by a certificate from the Turkish Agent at Larnaca.

The Turkish Custom-house, however, requires a certificate from the local custom-house, stating that such goods have left the island, and another certificate from the Mayor of the port where they are shipped to the effect that they are of Cypriot origin.

This double certificate is required because a mere statement from the Cyprus Customs would not prove, so the Turkish Custom-house authorities contend, that the goods are not of Hellenic origin, re-exported by certain Greek firms, who have established agencies in Cyprus, Samos, and Crete for the express purpose of evading the high Tariff in force against Greece.

I have, &c.

(Signed) M. DE BUNSEN.

No. 134.

Mr. de Bunsen to the Marquess of Lansdowne.— (Received November 26.)

(No. 158. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, November 19, 1900.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 141, Commercial, of the 26th September, I have the honour to report that the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador has appointed Baron von Braun, Councillor of the Embassy, and M. Otto, Dragoman, as its Delegates for the purpose of reopening commercial negotiations with the Ottoman Government.

At the date of my above-mentioned despatch the Austrian negotiation was at a standstill owing to the refusal of the Ambassador to proceed until certain pending questions relating to other matters had been settled to his satisfaction. His Excellency appears to have abandoned this attitude. He informed me a few days ago that he was engaged in a serious controversy with this Government concerning some long-standing claims of the Oriental Railway Company, and that his Government had nevertheless directed him to resume negotiations. This was to be done by regarding the agreement already reached on the majority of the Articles of the draft Treaty as final, and renewing the discussion of the few Articles that remained. If the Porte was willing to meet the views of his Government concerning the unsettled Articles, the Treaty would be ready for signature.

* Nos. 124 and 128.

† Copy to Colonial Office, November 6, 1900.

I have not yet ascertained what are the points at issue, but Mr. Weakley is going into the question, and I shall have the honour shortly to report further to your Lordship on the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) M. DE BUNSEN.

No. 135.

Mr. de Bunsen to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received December 10.)

(No. 162. Commercial.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, December 5, 1900.*

THE advanced state of the French negotiation for a new Treaty of Commerce with Turkey, and the resumption of negotiations by Austria-Hungary reported in my despatch No. 158, Commercial, of the 19th ultimo, render it desirable that Her Majesty's Embassy should be prepared to take up the thread of the interrupted Anglo-Turkish negotiations for a similar purpose in the event of Her Majesty's Government considering such a step desirable.

To facilitate the study of this important question Mr. Weakley, Commercial Attaché to this Embassy, had prepared the inclosed Table, showing in parallel columns the text respectively of the German Treaty concluded in 1890, and the French draft Treaty now under consideration, and the English draft Treaty. The Articles of the two draft Treaties do not follow consecutively, but are arranged so as to bring into the same line all the Articles relating to the same subject.

Memoranda showing the position with regard to each of the unaccepted Articles of the British draft are already in your Lordship's possession with Sir N. O'Conor's covering despatch No. 67 of the 8th May. I am preparing with Mr. Weakley a further Memorandum containing suggestions for the treatment of the various points still at issue, in the light of the last phase which the French draft has now assumed.

Your Lordship is aware that the French draft was initialled on both sides and sent to Paris for approval some months ago. It has now been returned with fresh instructions, which are expected by the French Embassy to lead to a speedy agreement for submission in due course to the French Chambers.

The French Embassy has kindly given me the following information on the subject.

The French Government have adopted the important decision that the Treaty and the specific Tariff attached to it are separable, and that the larger portion of the Treaty can and shall take effect immediately after ratification and without waiting for the Tariff to come into force, which it naturally cannot do until it is accepted by all the Powers. The only paragraphs which it is held must come into force simultaneously with the Tariff and not before are those which are underlined in the middle column of Mr. Weakley's Table, such as the Articles suppressing export and transit dues, which it appears unfair to enforce on the Ottoman Government until the latter should be enabled to recoup themselves from the higher duties of the specific Tariff for the loss entailed.

All the remaining paragraphs are regarded as applicable without waiting for the Tariff.

The Turkish Government are to be urged to consent to the addition of a clause to Article XXVII providing that the rights possessed by either Power at the date of signature are not to be invalidated by the terms of that Article. In other words, the Capitulations are maintained.

Subject to the alterations of the text involved in the above instructions, the French Ambassador is authorized to sign the Treaty, provided:—

1. That Turkey will alter her draft "Règlement Douanier" in accordance with the French demands.

2. That Turkey will accept the four points demanded by the Ambassadors in their meeting of the 1st May, 1900, as the condition of their consenting to the increase of the *ad valorem* duties which was then in contemplation; and

3. That Jibuti shall be regarded, for Tariff purposes, as a French possession, the export duties to that port being reduced from 8 per cent. to 1 per cent. *ad valorem*.

As regards the first of these three conditions, I am as yet unable to say which of the various drafts of a "Règlement Douanier" successively referred to in the correspondence relating to the British commercial negotiations, has been selected as the basis of the demands now put forward by France, or what those demands are. Equally with the French we have always held that an agreement with regard to the "Règlement Douanier" was highly desirable as a preliminary to the signature of the Treaty.

The four points referred to in the second condition are briefly as follows:—

1. Admission of all articles not expressly prohibited or restricted by Treaty.
2. Prohibited or restricted articles to be re-exported and not confiscated.
3. Reform of present system of chemical analysis as applied to certain imported articles.
4. Reduction of "Ardié," or storage dues.

The third condition, relating to Jibuti, is of less general importance.

In the despatch containing the instructions under which the French negotiation is being resumed it is stated that the French Government are desirous of pushing the negotiation to a conclusion, and thus putting an end to the unsatisfactory provisional state of affairs which has existed since the termination of the last Franco-Turkish Commercial Treaty.

It is not yet clear what would be the exact situation created by the existence of Treaty relations between France and Turkey differing from those between Turkey and the other Powers. The French, it would seem, would be placed in a position of inferiority as regards, for instance, the Article restricting the privileges now enjoyed by Diplomatic and Consular officials in respect of free entry of goods through the Custom-house. On the other hand, the other Powers would surely claim equal privileges, under the most-favoured-nation treatment secured by the Capitulations, in respect of any Articles conferring advantages on French merchants, such as the Article providing for bonded warehouses.

I have, &c.
(Signed) M. DE BUNSEN.

Inclosure in No. 135.

COMPARATIVE TABLE showing the Text of the German Treaty of 1890, the French Draft Treaty of 1900, and the British Draft Treaty.

GERMAN TREATY 1890.	FRENCH DRAFT TREATY 1900.	BRITISH DRAFT TREATY.
PRÉAMBULE.	PRÉAMBULE.	PRÉAMBULE.
SA Majesté l'Empereur d'Allemagne, Roi de Prusse, au nom de l'Empire Allemand, d'une part, et Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Ottomans, d'autre part, étant animés du désir de régler de nouveau et de consolider par un acte spécial les relations d'amitié, de commerce, et de navigation entre les deux pays, ont nommé pour leurs Plénipotentiaires, savoir :	LE Président de la République Française, d'une part, et Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Ottomans, d'autre part, désirant de consolider par un acte spécial les relations qui existent heureusement entre les deux pays, ont résolu de conclure à cet effet un Traité de Commerce et de Navigation entre les deux pays, ont nommés pour leurs Plénipotentiaires :	SA Majesté la Reine du Royaume-Uni de la Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande, Impératrice des Indes, d'une part, et Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Ottomans, d'autre part, étant animés du désir de développer et de consolider par un acte spécial les relations d'amitié, de commerce, et de navigation entre les deux pays, ont nommés pour leurs Plénipotentiaires :
ARTICLE I.	ARTICLE I.	ARTICLE I.
Les sujets et les produits du sol et de l'industrie, ainsi que les bâtiments, de l'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes, auront de droit dans le territoire de l'autre l'exercice et la jouissance de tous les avantages, privilèges, et immunités qui sont ou qui par la suite seraient accordés, ou dont le Gouvernement du pays en question pourrait permettre la jouissance aux sujets, aux produits du sol et de l'industrie et aux bâtiments de toute autre nation la plus favorisée.	Tous les droits, privilèges, et immunités conférés aux Français, aux bâtiments, à la navigation et au commerce de la France par les stipulations des Traités antérieurs, sont confirmés, à l'exception de celles de ces clauses qui sont modifiées par le présent Traité. Tous les droits, privilèges, et immunités que l'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes accorde à présent, ou pourra accorder dans la suite, ou dont elle permettra la jouissance à l'avenir aux nationaux, au commerce, aux produits du sol et de l'industrie, aux bâtiments, et à la navigation de toute autre Puissance étrangère, sont accordés immédiatement et sans condition aux nationaux, au commerce, aux produits du sol et de l'industrie, aux bâtiments et à la navigation de l'autre Partie Contractante qui en auront de droit l'exercice et la jouissance.	Tous les droits, privilèges, et immunités que l'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes accorde à présent, ou pourra accorder par la suite, ou dont elle permettra la jouissance à l'avenir, aux sujets, au commerce, aux produits du sol ou de l'industrie, aux bâtiments, et à la navigation de toute autre Puissance étrangère, seront accordés immédiatement et sans conditions aux sujets, au commerce, aux produits du sol et de l'industrie, aux bâtiments, et à la navigation de l'autre Haute Partie Contractante, qui en auront de droit l'exercice et la jouissance.
ARTICLE XXIV.		ARTICLE XXVII.
Toutes les stipulations du Traité d'Amitié et de Commerce du 22 Mars, 1761 (v. s.), autant qu'elles ne se trouvent pas en contradiction avec la présente Convention, ne sont pas atteintes par cette dernière, et sont étendues sous les mêmes conditions à l'Empire Allemand, jusqu'à ce qu'une entente ultérieure puisse être établie		Tous les droits, privilèges, et immunités acquis par la Grande-Bretagne et la Turquie en vertu des Traités et stipulations antérieurs sont confirmés, la présente Convention n'ayant pour objet que de modifier pour le

GERMAN TREATY 1890.

d'un commun accord relativement aux modifications qu'on jugerait utile d'y apporter.

ARTICLE II.

Les sujets de chacune des deux Hautes Parties ou leurs ayants cause pourront acheter dans toutes les parties du territoire de l'autre soit qu'ils veulent en faire le commerce à l'intérieur, soit qu'ils se proposent de les exporter, tous les articles, sans exception, provenant du sol ou de l'industrie.

La Sublime Porte confirme la renonciation à l'usage des teskérés anciennement demandés aux autorités locales pour l'achat des marchandises ou pour leur transport d'un lieu à un autre quand elles étaient achetées.

ARTICLE VI.

En ce qui concerne l'importation, l'exportation, le transit, la mise en entrepôts marchandises, ainsi que les droits à payer de quelque nature qu'ils soient, et les formalités douanières de toute espèce, les deux Parties s'engagent à se faire participer immédiatement et sans autre formalité à tous les privilèges, à tous les bénéfices, et à toute autre réduction des droits, ainsi qu'à toute autre exemption ou concession qu'elles ont accordés ou qu'elles accorderont à une tierce Puissance.

ARTICLE III.

Les sujets de chacune des deux Hautes Parties ne seront soumis, sur le territoire de l'autre, à aucune taxe, imposition, ou charge générale ou locale, de quelque nature que ce soit, autre ou plus élevée que celles qui frappent ou qui frapperont les nationaux les plus favorisés et les sujets de la nation la plus favorisée.

FRENCH DRAFT TREATY 1900.

ARTICLE II.

Les Français ou leurs ayants cause pourront acheter dans toutes les parties de l'Empire Ottoman, soit qu'ils veuillent en faire le commerce à l'intérieur, soit qu'ils se proposent de les exporter, tous les articles, sans exception, provenant du sol ou de l'industrie de ce pays, ainsi que tous les produits de pays étrangers importés en Turquie.

Le même droit appartient en France aux sujets de Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Ottomans.

La Sublime Porte confirme la renonciation à l'usage des teskérés anciennement demandés aux autorités locales pour l'achat des marchandises ou pour leur transport d'un lieu à un autre quand elles étaient achetées.

BRITISH DRAFT TREATY.

temps de sa durée certaines clauses des dits Traités et stipulations.

(Discussion reserved.)

ARTICLE II.

Les sujets de chacune des deux Hautes Parties Contractantes ou leurs ayants cause pourront acheter, dans toutes les parties du territoire de l'autre, soit qu'ils veuillent en faire le commerce à l'intérieur, soit qu'ils se proposent de les exporter, tous les articles provenant du sol ou de l'industrie.

En tout ce qui concerne l'importation, l'exportation, le transit, le chargement et le déchargement des navires, la mise en entrepôt des marchandises, l'exercice du commerce intérieur, des métiers et de l'industrie, la faculté de tenir magasins et établissements de commerce ou d'industrie, les marques de fabrique ou de commerce, les brevets d'invention, les droits, impositions, et charges générales ou locales de toute espèce, qui frappent ou qui frapperont le commerce intérieur et les produits nationaux du sol ou de l'industrie, les Sociétés anonymes et autres Sociétés Industrielles, les primes, drawbacks, et les formalités douanières de toute espèce, chacune des deux Hautes Parties Contractantes s'engage à faire participer les sujets de l'autre Partie immédiatement et sans formalités à tous les privilèges, à tous les bénéfices, à toute réduction de droits, ainsi qu'à toutes autres exemptions qu'elle a accordées, ou qu'elle accorderait par la suite, aux nationaux les plus favorisés et aux sujets de la nation la plus favorisée.

Il est toutefois bien entendu que pour tout ce qui concerne l'exercice du commerce intérieur, des métiers et de l'industrie, la faculté de tenir magasin et établissement de commerce, et les Sociétés Anonymes et Sociétés Industrielles, ces privilèges et exemptions de cette égalité de traitement avec les nationaux les plus favorisés et les sujets de la nation la plus favorisée, ne sont accordés aux sujets de chacune des deux Hautes Parties Contractantes dans le territoire de l'autre qu'à la condition qu'ils soient soumis en ces matières aux mêmes Règlements, taxes, et impôts que les nationaux et les sujets de la nation la plus favorisée.

Toutefois l'exécution des décisions rendues dans l'application des Règlements, taxes, et impôts mentionnés plus haut ne pourra avoir lieu dans l'Empire Ottoman sans l'assistance Consulaire, qui s'exercera également au cours de la procédure judiciaire dans le cas où celle-ci serait prescrite par les Règlements concernant ces matières.

Il est également bien entendu que tout obstacle ou opposition à l'importation, à l'exportation, ou au transit de tout article de commerce, produit du sol ou de l'industrie, à l'exception de ceux dont mention est faite dans le présent Article et dans les Articles 18 (XVI) et 19 (XVII) de ce Traité, sera considéré comme une infraction à la présente Convention, et que les sujets de l'une ou de l'autre des Hautes Parties Contractantes qui pourront dûment et légalement prouver avoir subi des préjudices ou pertes par suite de tels obstacles ou oppositions recevront pleine justice, sauf dans le cas où la prohibition à l'exportation sera rendue nécessaire par des raisons locales impérieuses, ou que la prohibition à l'importation ou au transit de marchandises non comprises dans les Articles 18 (XVI) et 19 (XVII) du présent Traité serait dictée par des exigences sanitaires ou vétérinaires, ou dans le but d'empêcher, dans l'intérêt de l'agriculture, la propagation d'insectes ou d'organismes nuisibles. Toutefois, chaque prohibition sera précédée d'un Avis officiel publié dans les journaux, portant à la connaissance du public la durée et les conditions y relatives.

(Signed *ad referendum*, but discussion reopened.)

German Treaty 1890.

ARTICLE IV.

Aucun article ne pourra être assujetti dans les États de l'une des deux Parties lors de son exportation vers les États de l'autre à des droits ou des charges autres ou plus élevés que ceux qui sont ou qui pourront être exigibles lors de l'exportation du même article pour tout autre pays étranger.

En Turquie, tout article destiné à l'exportation sera exempté de toute espèce de charges à son entrée ou pendant l'entreposage, à l'exception de la taxe de transit de 1 pour cent ad valorem à l'échelle, et sera passible au moment d'exportation d'un droit qui ne dépassera pas le droit d'exportation actuellement payable par le produit d'exportation le plus favorisé.

ARTICLE V.

Tout article de fabrication ou de provenance Allemande importé par terre ou par mer dans les États de Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Ottomans et tout article de fabrication ou de provenance Ottomane importé par terre ou par mer en Allemagne, ne sera soumis dans les États de Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Ottomans, et en Allemagne à des droits autres ou plus élevés que ceux qui sont ou qui pourraient être payables lors de l'importation du même article produit du sol ou de l'industrie du pays le plus favorisé.

La Sublime Porte s'engage en outre à ne soumettre les articles de fabrication ou de provenance Allemande importés dans l'Empire Ottoman à aucun autre droit, ni à des droits excédant ceux indiqués dans le Tarif ci-annexé, et qui fait partie intégrante du présent Traité.

En ce qui concerne les vins, les spiritueux, les tapées à cigarettes, le sucre, le café, le tarine, les aliments, les combustibles, les cartes à jouer, les fruits, et les légumes, la Sublime Porte se réserve le droit d'augmenter les taxes fixées dans le susdit Tarif du montant des surtaxes ou taxes nouvelles qui pourraient être imposées à l'avenir aux produits similaires du sol et de la fabrication de la Turquie.

Pour ce qui concerne les sucres et les farines, les tissus et les surtaxes de quelque nature qu'elle soient, y compris le droit d'entrée, ne pourront dépasser en aucun cas pour les Individus:—

	Piastres or.
1. Pour les sucres—	
(a.) Raffiné en pain, entier ou cassé, carré, en tablettes, pilé ou en farine, sucre candi	54
(b.) Brut	48
2. Pour les farines—	
(a.) De froment	27
(b.) D'avoine, d'orge, de maïs et autres farines non-dénommées	18

Le droit d'importation sera payable dans les États de Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Ottomans au moment du débarquement des marchandises, si elles arrivent par mer, et au premier bureau de douane, si elles viennent par voie de terre. Quant aux importations et exportations par chemins de fer, la perception des droits se fera dans les États de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, conformément aux Règlements spéciaux qui seront édictés par le Gouvernement Ottoman sur la base des

French Draft Treaty 1909.

ARTICLE III.

Aucun article ne pourra être assujetti dans les États de la République lors de son exportation vers les États de Leurs Excellences Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Ottomans lors de son exportation vers les États de la République à des droits ou charges autres ou plus élevés que ceux qui sont ou qui pourraient être exigés lors de l'exportation du même article vers tout autre pays étranger.

L'exportation de l'étranger aussi que le transport ou opération d'exportation dans les limites de l'Empire Ottoman de toutes les marchandises indigènes ou étrangères appartenant à des Français ou à leurs ayants cause ne pourront être soumis à aucun droit ou charge quelconque. Toutefois, avant de permettre l'exportation d'un article assujetti à la dîme ou à toute autre taxe ou charge analogue payable par le producteur, les autorités Douanières de l'Empire Ottoman auront le droit d'exiger de l'exportateur la preuve que les charges ou taxes en question ont été acquittées. Les articles pour lesquels cette preuve devra être fournie par l'exportateur seront désignés dans les Ordonnances officielles qui devront être publiées six mois avant leur mise en vigueur.)

ARTICLE IV.

Tout article produit du sol ou de l'industrie de la France importé en Turquie par des Français ou des étrangers par terre ou par mer, sous quelque pavillon que ce soit, ainsi que tout article produit du sol ou de l'industrie des pays étrangers, jouissant en Turquie du traitement de la nation la plus favorisée importé par des Français ou des étrangers par terre ou par mer, sous quelque pavillon que ce soit, ainsi que tout article produit du sol ou de l'industrie des pays étrangers jouissant en France du traitement de la nation la plus favorisée importé par des Français ou des étrangers par terre ou par mer, sous quelque pavillon que ce soit, ne seront soumis dans les États de Leurs Excellences Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Ottomans à aucun autre droit ni à des droits plus élevés que ceux indiqués dans le Tarif ci-annexé, et qui fait partie intégrante du présent Traité.

Le droit d'importation en Turquie sera payable au port de débarquement des marchandises ou à leur sortie des entrepôts de la Douane ou des entrepôts privés. Les marchandises arrivant par terre acquitteront des droits d'entrée à la première douane.

Les payements des droits se fera au choix de l'importateur en or, le Médjidieh d'or à 100 piastres ou en Médjidieh d'argent au taux fixé et publié en temps utile chaque trimestre, par l'Administration Générale des Douanes, suivant la moyenne des cours de la place de Constantinople.

Il est toutefois entendu toutefois que le taux des droits de Douane prélevés sur les marchandises ci-dessus mentionnées ne pourra être plus élevé que celui des droits perçus sur les articles analogues importés par des sujets Ottomans à ceux de la nation la plus favorisée, quelle que soit la voie par laquelle s'effectuerait l'importation.

De même, toutes les marchandises produits du sol ou de l'industrie de l'Empire Ottoman importées en France seront traitées comme les produits similaires des pays les plus favorisés.

ARTICLE VII.

Les marchandises d'origine Française ou bien d'origine étrangère appartenant à des Français, importées par terre ou par mer, sous quelque pavillon que ce soit, après avoir acquitté les droits d'importation, pourront être vendues soit au lieu de leur arrivée, soit dans l'intérieur du pays, sans que l'acheteur ou le vendeur soit soumis à aucun autre droit pour les mêmes marchandises, sauf les cas stipulés dans le présent Traité.

En ce qui concerne les spiritueux, le café, le bois à

British Draft Treaty.

ARTICLE IV.

Dans l'Empire Ottoman tout article destiné à l'exportation sera transporté au lieu d'embarquement ou d'exportation par terre où se trouvera une autorité publique chargée de recevoir la déclaration d'exportation, et sera exporté libre de toute espèce de charges.

Toutefois, avant de permettre l'enlèvement du lieu de production d'un produit du sol Ottoman, assujetti à la dîme ou à toute autre charge analogue, la Sublime Porte se réserve le droit d'exiger la preuve constatant que les taxes intérieures spéciales de production, payables par le producteur auxquelles ces mêmes articles pourraient être assujettis, ont été acquittées.

Il sera toujours porté à la connaissance du commerce par voie de publications officielles, au moins quatre mois à l'avance, les articles pour lesquels cette preuve sera demandée.

(Signed *ad referendum*. To be discussed.)

ARTICLE III.

Aucun article de fabrication ou de provenance des États et possessions de Sa Majesté Britannique, importé dans l'Empire Ottoman par les sujets Britanniques Ottomans, ou étrangers, et aucun article produit du sol ou de l'industrie des pays étrangers jouissant du traitement de la nation la plus favorisée importé par les sujets Britanniques ou par leurs ayants cause, ne seront soumis, qu'ils soient importés par mer sous pavillon Britannique ou autre ou par terre, à aucun autre droit ou charge, ni à des droit- excédant ceux indiqués dans le Tarif ci-annexé qui fait partie intégrante du présent Traité.

Il est cependant entendu entre les Hautes Parties Contractantes que les articles susmentionnés bénéficieront de toute réduction de droits d'octroi qui pourrait être accordée pour des marchandises similaires importées par terre ou par mer par les sujets Ottomans ou étrangers, jouissant du traitement de la nation la plus favorisée.

Le droit d'importation sera payable dans l'Empire Ottoman du moment où les marchandises, soit qu'elles arrivent par voie de terre, soit par voie de mer, quittent les dépôts ou entrepôts de la Douane Ottomane.

Le payement des droits d'entrée se fera au choix de l'importateur en or, le Médjidié d'or à 100 piastres, ou en Médjidié d'argent au taux fixé et publié en temps utile par l'Administration des Contributions Indirectes chaque trimestre, d'après les cours de la place de Constantinople.

En ce qui concerne [*sic*]

La Sublime Porte se réserve le droit d'imposer en dehors des droits fixés dans ledit Tarif des surtaxes ou taxes nouvelles qui dans aucun cas n'excéderont le minimum de celles qui pourraient être imposées à l'avenir aux produits similaires du sol ou de l'industrie de la Turquie.

(Not signed. Initialled only.)

German Treaty 1890.	French Draft Treaty 1900.	British Draft Treaty.
dispositions généralement adoptées dans les autres pays en pareille matière. Le payement des droits se fera au choix de l'importateur, en or, le Médjidieh d'or à 100 piastres, ou en Médjidieh d'argent au taux fixé et publié en temps utile chaque trimestre par Arrêté de l'Administration Centrale Ottomane, suivant la moyenne des cours de la place de Constantinople.	brûler, et le charbon de bois, la Sublime Porte se réserve la faculté d'augmenter les droits fixés dans le susdit Tarif du montant des surtaxes ou taxes nouvelles qui pourraient être imposées à l'avenir par le Gouvernement Ottoman aux produits similaires du sol ou de la fabrication de la Turquie.	
ARTICLE VI.	ARTICLE V.	
En ce qui concerne l'importation, l'exportation, le transit, la mise en entrepôt des marchandises ainsi que les droits à payer de quelque nature qu'ils soient et les formalités douanières de toute espèce, les deux Parties s'engagent à se faire participer immédiatement et sans autre formalité à tous les privilèges, à tous les bénéfices, et à toute réduction des droits ainsi qu'à toute autre exemption ou concession qu'elles ont accordés ou qu'elles accorderont à une tierce Puissance.	En ce qui concerne l'importation, l'exportation, le transit, la mise en entrepôt des marchandises ainsi que les droits à payer de quelque nature qu'ils soient et les formalités douanières de toute espèce, les deux Parties s'engagent à se faire participer, immédiatement et sans autre formalité, à tous les privilèges, à tous les bénéfices et à toute réduction des droits ainsi qu'à toute autre exemption ou concession qu'elles ont accordés ou qu'elles accorderont à une tierce Puissance.	See Article II, paragraph 2.
ARTICLE VII.	ARTICLE VI.	
Tout article qui peut ou qui pourra être légalement importé de l'étranger dans le territoire de l'une des deux Parties Contractantes ou qui peut ou qui pourra en être exporté pour l'étranger par les navires nationaux ou par ceux de la nation la plus favorisée, pourra l'être également par les navires de l'autre Partie, sans être soumis à des droits ou charges autres ou plus élevés que ceux qui seraient exigibles si l'article était importé ou exporté sur des bateaux nationaux ou sur ceux de la nation la plus favorisée. Cette égalité de traitement sera appliquée soit que la marchandise vienne directement du pays de production, soit qu'elle vienne de tout autre pays.	Tout article qui peut ou qui pourra être légalement importé de l'étranger dans le territoire de l'une des deux Parties Contractantes ou qui peut ou qui pourra en être exporté pour l'étranger par les navires nationaux ou par ceux de la nation la plus favorisée, pourra l'être également par les navires de l'autre Partie, sans être soumis à des droits ou charges autres ou plus élevés que ceux qui seraient exigibles si l'article était importé ou exporté sur des bâtiments nationaux ou sur ceux de la nation la plus favorisée. Cette égalité de traitement sera appliquée soit que la marchandise vienne directement du pays de production soit qu'elle vienne de tout autre pays. See also Article VII.	See Article II, paragraph 1.
ARTICLE VIII.	ARTICLE VIII.	ARTICLE VII.
Aucun droit quelconque ne sera prélevé sur les marchandises de fabrication ou de provenance Allemande ni sur les marchandises de fabrication ou de provenance étrangère appartenant à des sujets Allemands chargées sur des bâtiments Allemands quand ces marchandises passeront par les Détroits des Dardanelles et sur la Mer Noire, soit qu'elles traversent ces Détroits sur les bâtiments qui les ont apportées ou qu'elles soient transbordées sur d'autres bâtiments ou que venues pour l'exportation, elles soient, pour un temps limité, déposées à terre pour continuer leur voyage à bord d'autres bâtiments. Dans ce dernier cas les marchandises devront être entreposées sous les conditions établies dans l'Article XIII.	Aucun droit ou charge quelconque ne sera prélevé sur les marchandises de fabrication ou de provenance Française lorsque les bâtiments se trouveront dans les eaux de la Turquie, y compris les Détroits des Dardanelles et le Bosphore, soit que ces marchandises se trouvent sur les bâtiments qui les ont apportées, soit qu'elles soient transbordées sur d'autres bâtiments ou qu'elles soient, pour un temps limité, déposées à terre pour être ensuite embarquées à bord du même ou d'autres bâtiments. Dans ce dernier cas les marchandises qui seront déposées à la Douane peuvent y rester pour un terme n'excédant pas un mois. Passé ce délai, elles seront entreposées sous les conditions établies par l'Article XII; mais les droits à l'entreposage commenceront à courir à partir du huitième jour de leur débarquement. Le même régime sera appliqué aux marchandises débarquées pour continuer leur voyage par voie de terre.	Aucun droit ou charge quelconque ne sera prélevé sur les marchandises de fabrication ou de provenance Anglaise ou étrangère appartenant à des sujets Anglais ou chargées sur des bâtiments Anglais, lorsque les bâtiments sur lesquels elles sont chargées se trouveront dans les eaux de la Turquie, y compris les Détroits des Dardanelles et de la Mer Noire, soit que ces marchandises se trouvaient sur les bâtiments qui les ont apportées, soit qu'elles seraient transbordées sur d'autres bâtiments ou qu'elles seraient pour un temps limité, déposées à terre pour être ensuite embarquées à bord du même ou d'autres bâtiments. Dans ce dernier cas les marchandises qui seraient déposées à la Douane peuvent y rester pour un terme n'excédant pas un mois. Passé ce terme, elles seront entreposées sous les conditions établies par l'Article IX, mais les droits d'entreposage commenceront à courir à partir du huitième jour de leur débarquement.
(Part of Article XIII.) Le délai d'entreposage des marchandises n'excédera pas douze mois pendant lesquels les importateurs auront la faculté de les réexporter sans payer un droit d'importation ou d'exportation. Passé ce délai, les marchandises seront passibles de l'intégralité des droits d'importation.	See Article XII.	(Part of Article IX.) Le délai d'entreposage des marchandises n'excédera pas douze mois, pendant lesquels les détenteurs auront la faculté d'ouvrir les colis, d'assortir les marchandises et de les remballer aussi bien que de les réexporter ou de les faire transiter en totalité ou en partie, sans payer aucun droit ou charge, sauf le droit d'entreposage. Les détenteurs peuvent également, pendant les douze mois, retirer une partie de leurs marchandises pour le commerce intérieur, en ne payant le droit d'entrée que sur la partie retirée. Dès que le terme de douze mois sera expiré les marchandises seront passibles des droits d'importation.
ARTICLE IX.	ARTICLE IX.	ARTICLE V.
Aucun droit de transit ne sera prélevé sur les marchandises Allemandes passant par la Turquie. Est aussi assimilée au régime du transit toute mar-	Aucun droit de transit ne sera prélevé sur les marchandises Françaises passant par la Turquie ni sur les marchandises Ottomanes passant par la France.	Aucun droit de transit ne sera prélevé sur les marchandises Anglaises passant par la Turquie ni sur les marchandises Ottomanes passant par l'Angleterre.

chandise passant par une partie quelconque de la Turquie et destinée à un endroit de l'Empire Ottoman où elle ne pourrait être introduite sans payer un droit d'entrée.

Quant aux marchandises à destination de l'Égypte ou venant d'Égypte, le régime actuel est maintenu. Il est donc entendu qu'une fois que ces marchandises auront acquitté le droit d'entrée, elles ne seront en aucun cas astreintes à un second payement de droits.

Les marchandises Ottomanes traversant l'Allemagne ne seront soumises à des droits autres ou plus élevés que ceux payables lors du transit des marchandises de la nation la plus favorisée.

Est aussi soumise au régime du transit toute marchandise passant par une partie quelconque de la Turquie et destinée à un endroit de l'Empire Ottoman où elle ne pourrait être introduite sans payer un droit d'entrée.

Quant aux marchandises à destination de l'Égypte ou venant de l'Égypte le régime actuel est maintenu. Il est donc entendu qu'une fois que ces marchandises auront acquitté le droit d'entrée elles ne seront en aucun cas astreintes à un second payement de droits.

Est aussi assimilée au régime du transit toute marchandise passant par une partie quelconque de la Turquie et destinée à un endroit de l'Empire Ottoman où elle ne pourrait être introduite sans payer un droit d'entrée.

Quant aux marchandises à destination de l'Égypte ou venant de l'Égypte le régime actuel est maintenu. Il est donc entendu qu'une fois que ces marchandises auront acquitté le droit d'entrée elles ne seront en aucun cas astreintes à un second payement.

ARTICLE VI.

Toute marchandise produit du sol ou de l'industrie de la Turquie débarquée d'un bâtiment Anglais dans un port Ottoman devra, pour pouvoir bénéficier de l'exemption de tout droit de douane, être accompagnée d'une preuve constatant sa provenance.

ARTICLE XV.

Les Firmans exigés des bâtiments marchands Allemands à leur passage par les Dardanelles et le Bosphore, leur seront toujours délivrés de manière à leur occasionner le moins de retard possible.

ARTICLE XV.

Les Firmans exigés des bâtiments marchands Français à leur passage par les Détroits des Dardanelles et le Bosphore leur seront toujours délivrés de manière à leur occasionner le moins de retard possible.

ARTICLE VIII.

Les Firmans exigés des bâtiments marchands Anglais à leur passage par les Détroits des Dardanelles et de la Mer Noire leur seront toujours délivrés de manière à leur occasionner le moins de retard possible.

ARTICLE X.

Seront exempts des droits d'importation dans l'Empire Ottoman, après vérification domiciliaire :—

1. Les cartes d'échantillons, les échantillons en morceaux coupés de la pièce, ou les échantillons représentant la marchandise, en tant qu'ils ne peuvent servir à aucun autre usage;

2. Les effets de voyage, les vêtements et le linge des voyageurs servant à leur propre usage;

ARTICLE X.

Seront exempts des droits d'importation dans l'Empire Ottoman, après vérification domiciliaire :—

1. Les cartes d'échantillons, les échantillons et morceaux coupés de la pièce, ou les échantillons ou modèles représentant la marchandise, en tant qu'ils ne peuvent servir à aucun autre usage.

2. Les effets de voyage, les vêtements, et le linge des voyageurs servant à leur usage personnel.

ARTICLE X.

Seront exempts des droits d'importation dans l'Empire Ottoman après vérification domiciliaire :—

1. Les cartes d'échantillons, les échantillons en morceaux coupés de la pièce, ou les échantillons et modèles représentant la marchandise, en tant qu'ils ne peuvent servir à aucun autre usage.

2. Les effets de voyage, les vêtements, et le linge des voyageurs servant à leur usage personnel.

3. Les effets et objets importés à l'adresse et destinés à l'usage personnel ou de la famille du chef d'un Consulat-Général ou d'un Consulat Allemand établi en Turquie, si ces chefs sont des fonctionnaires de carrière ayant un traitement fixe de leur Gouvernement et en tant que le droit d'importation ne dépasse pas 2,500 piastres or par an;

4. Les effets et objets importés à l'adresse et destinés à l'usage personnel ou de la famille d'un fonctionnaire Diplomatique ou Consulaire Allemand, quand ces objets et effets sont introduits lors de la première installation de ce fonctionnaire ou de sa famille en Turquie.

Seront en outre exempts des droits d'importation ainsi que de la vérification douanière tous les envois de marchandises arrivés en Turquie par la voie postale, en tant que le poids brut ne dépasse pas 250 grammes et les droits de douane n'excèdent pas 150 piastres or par 100 kilog. Quant aux envois d'imprimés arrivant sous bande postale, qui jusqu'au poids maximum de 2 kilog. continueront de jouir de la franchise douanière, le régime actuel est maintenu.

Il est attendu que par la spécification des exceptions ci-dessus, il n'est porté aucune atteinte à la franchise douanière dont jouissent les chefs de Missions Diplomatiques en vertu du droit international.

3. Les effets et objets importés à l'adresse et destinés à l'usage personnel ou de la famille du chef d'un Consulat-Général, d'un Consulat, ou d'un Vice-Consulat établi en Turquie si ces chefs sont des fonctionnaires de carrière ayant un traitement fixe de leur Gouvernement, et en tant que le droit d'importation ne dépasse pas 2,500 piastres or par an pour les premiers et 1,500 pour le dernier.

4. Les effets et objets importés à l'adresse et destinés à l'usage personnel ou de la famille d'un fonctionnaire Diplomatique et Consulaire Français quand ces effets et objets sont introduits lors de la première installation de ce fonctionnaire ou de sa famille en Turquie.

5. Les effets et objets importés à l'adresse des Conseillers, Secrétaires, Drogmans de l'Ambassade de France, et destinés à leur usage personnel et à celui de leur famille (après les distinctions adoptées ci-dessus pour les Consuls-Généraux, Consuls, et Vice-Consuls.

Seront en outre exempts des droits d'importation :

(*a.*) Les provisions de bord pour les bâtiments Français, y compris les quantités de sel et de tabac nécessaire pour l'usage de l'équipage et des passagers à bord, pourvu qu'elles soient arrivées dans les bâtiments et qu'elles ne soient pas débarquées.

(*b.*) La houille non destinée à la consommation locale qui se trouve à bord des bâtiments à vapeur Français ou qui sera débarquée à terre dans les entrepôts privés et surveillés par la Douane pour être ensuite embarquée comme combustible à bord d'autres bateaux.

Il est bien entendu que les stipulations de cet Article ne sauraient porter atteinte à la franchise douanière dont jouissent en vertu du droit international les chefs des Missions Diplomatiques ainsi que les stationnaires de l'Ambassade de France à Constantinople, et les bâtiments de guerre de passage dans les autres ports de l'Empire Ottoman.

For Postal paragraph, see Article XI.

3. Les provisions de bord pour les bâtiments Anglais, y compris les quantités de sel et de tabac nécessaires pour l'usage de l'équipage et des passagers à bord, pourvu qu'elles soient arrivées dans les bâtiments et qu'elles ne soient pas débarquées.

4. La houille non destinée à la consommation locale qui se trouve à bord des bateaux à vapeur Anglais ou qui sera débarquée à terre dans les entrepôts de la Douane ou dans les entrepôts privés admis et surveillés par la Douane pour être ensuite embarquée comme combustible à bord d'autres bateaux.

5. Les effets et objets importés à l'adresse des Consuls-Généraux, Consuls, et Vice-Consuls Anglais, établis en Turquie, et destinés à leur usage personnel ou celui de leurs familles, à la condition que ces Consuls soient fonctionnaires de carrière, jouissant d'un traitement fixe de leur Gouvernement (et en tant que la valeur des objets importés ne dépasserait pas par an: pour un Consul-Général, 25,000 piastres or; pour un Consul, 20,000 piastres or, et pour un Vice-Consul, 10,000 piastres or).

6. Les effets et objets importés à l'adresse d'un fonctionnaire Diplomatique ou Consulaire Anglais, et destinés à son usage personnel ou celui de sa famille, lorsque ces effets et objets seront introduits à l'occasion de la première installation de ce fonctionnaire ou de sa famille en Turquie.

7. Les effets et objets importés à l'adresse des Conseillers, Secrétaires, Premiers et Deuxièmes Drogmans et Attachés de l'Ambassade de Sa Majesté Britannique, et destinés à leur usage personnel ou celui de leurs familles, en tant que la valeur des objets importés ne dépasserait pas par an le montant de la franchise douanière accordée aux Consuls-Généraux de carrière.

Il est bien entendu que les stipulations de cet Article ne sauraient porter nullement atteinte à la franchise douanière dont jouissent en vertu du droit international les chefs des Missions Diplomatiques (ainsi que le stationnaire de l'Ambassade de Sa Majesté Britannique à Constantinople et les bâtiments de guerre de passage dans les autres ports de l'Empire Ottoman.

(Not signed.)

German Treaty 1890.

ARTICLE XI.

Les objets passibles d'un droit de douane qui sont importés comme échantillons par des marchands, des industriels, et des voyageurs de commerce seront, de part et d'autre, admis en franchise de droits d'entrée et de sortie, à la condition que ces objets soient réexportés sans avoir été vendus, et sous réserve de l'accomplissement des formalités de douane nécessaires pour la réexportation ou la mise en entrepôt.

Le délai accordé pour la circulation de ces échantillons sera fixé lors de leur importation, et ne pourra être réclamé pour plus d'un an.

La réexportation des échantillons devra être garantie dans les deux pays immédiatement au premier lieu d'entrée, soit par dépôt du montant des droits de douane respectifs, soit par cautionnement.

Les échantillons importés dans l'un des deux pays par des voyageurs de commerce de l'autre, pourront, après leur admission par l'autorité Douanière du premier lieu d'entrée, et durant le délai accordé pour leur circulation, être expédiés par mer à d'autres endroits de ce même pays sans être soumis à un renouvellement des formalités d'entrée, moyennant une déclaration de transport faite à l'autorité Douanière compétente.

See Article X, paragraph 5.

ARTICLE XII.

Aucun droit de tonnage, de port, de pilotage, d'ancrage, de quai, de phare, de quarantaine, ou tout autre droit semblable destiné à rémunérer des services rendus, quelle qu'en soit la nature ou la dénomination, perçu, ou à percevoir, à ce titre au profit du Gouvernement, de particuliers, de Corporations, ou d'établissements de toute espèce, ne sera imposé aux bâtiments de l'un des deux États dans les ports de l'autre si ce droit ne frappe pas également et sous les mêmes conditions les bâtiments nationaux et ceux de la nation la plus favorisée. Cette égalité de traitement s'appliquera réciproquement aux bâtiments des deux pays, quel que soit le lieu de leur départ et celui de leur destination.

French Draft Treaty 1900.

ARTICLE XI.

Les objets passibles d'un droit de douane qui sont importés comme échantillons par des marchands, des industriels, et des voyageurs de commerce seront admis en franchise des droits de part et d'autre, à la condition que ces objets soient réexportés sans avoir été vendus et sous réserve de l'accomplissement des formalités de douane nécessaires pour leur réexportation ou leur mise en entrepôt.

Le délai accordé pour la circulation de ces échantillons sera fixé lors de leur importation, et ne pourra être réclamé pour plus d'un an.

La réexportation des échantillons devra être garantie dans les deux pays immédiatement au premier lieu d'entrée, soit par dépôt du montant des droits de douane respectifs, soit par cautionnement.

Les échantillons pourront être réexportés, soit par le bureau d'entrée, soit par tout autre bureau de douane autorisé à cet effet. Le bureau par lequel est effectué la réexportation constituera le montant des droits déposés, ou déchargera la caution.

Les échantillons importés dans l'un des deux pays, par des voyageurs de commerce de l'autre, pourront, après leur admission par l'autorité Douanière du premier lieu d'entrée et durant le délai accordé pour leur circulation, être expédiés par mer à d'autres endroits de ce même pays sans être soumis à un renouvellement des formalités d'entrée moyennant une déclaration de transport faite à l'autorité Douanière compétente.

Seront exempts des droits d'importation, ainsi que de la vérification douanière, tous les envois de marchandises arrivées en Turquie par la voie postale, en tant que le poids brut ne dépassera pas 250 grammes, et les droits de douane n'excéderont pas 150 piastres or par 100 kilog.

Quant aux envois d'imprimés arrivant sous bande postale qui jusqu'au poids maximum de 2 kilog. continueront de jouir de la franchise douanière, le régime actuel est maintenu.

See Article XI, paragraph 6.

ARTICLE XIII.

Aucun droit de tonnage, de port, de pilotage, d'ancrage, de quai, de phare, de quarantaine, ou tout autre droit semblable, quelle qu'en soit la nature ou la dénomination, perçu, ou à percevoir, à ce titre au profit du Gouvernement, des particuliers, des Sociétés civiles ou commerciales, ou d'établissements de toute espèce, ne sera imposés aux bâtiments de l'un des deux États dans les ports de l'autre si ces droits ne frappent pas également, et sous les mêmes conditions, les bâtiments nationaux et ceux de la nation la plus favorisée. Cette égalité de traitement s'appliquera réciproquement aux bâtiments des deux pays quel que soit le lieu de leur départ et celui de leur destination.

Il est bien entendu que les droits et taxes susvisés devront toujours, comme par le passé, représenter la rémunération exacte de services rendus.

See paragraph of Protocol, p. 30.

British Draft Treaty.

ARTICLE XI.

Les objets passibles d'un droit de douane qui sont importés comme petits modèles ou échantillons par des marchands, des industriels, et des voyageurs de commerce seront, de part et d'autre, affranchis de tous droits de douane à la condition que ces objets soient réexportés, et sous réserve de l'accomplissement des formalités de douane nécessaires pour leur réexportation ou leur mise en entrepôt.

Le délai accordé pour la circulation de ces petits modèles et échantillons en franchise des droits sera limité à un an à partir de la date de leur importation.

La réexportation des petits modèles et échantillons devra être garantie immédiatement au premier lieu d'entrée par le dépôt du montant des droits de douane y afférents.

Les petits modèles et échantillons importés par les voyageurs de commerce pourront, après leur admission par l'autorité Douanière du premier lieu d'entrée de l'un des deux pays, et durant le délai accordé pour leur circulation, être expédiés par mer dans d'autres endroits de ce même pays sans être soumis au renouvellement des formalités d'entrée moyennant une déclaration de transport faite à l'autorité Douanière compétente.

Aucun droit ni taxe quelconque ne sera exigé des propriétaires de ces petits modèles et échantillons pour toute formalité douanière y relative.

Les voyageurs de commerce, sujets de l'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes se trouvant dans les territoires de l'autre, seront traités, quant aux taxes à payer pour l'exercice de leurs professions, comme les voyageurs nationaux et comme ceux de la nation la plus favorisée.

ARTICLE XII.

Seront exempts de droit d'importation, ainsi que de la vérification douanière, tous les envois de marchandises arrivés en Turquie par la voie postale, pourvu que leur poids brut ne dépasse pas 350 grammes, et que leur valeur n'excède pas 5½ piastres or.

Quant aux envois d'imprimés arrivant sous bande postale, qui, jusqu'au poids de 2 kilog. jouissent de la franchise douanière, le régime actuel est maintenu.

ARTICLE XIV.

En ce qui concerne les droits de tonnage, de port, de dock, de pilotage, d'ancrage, de quai, du phare, de quarantaine, ou tout autre droit ou charge semblable ou analogue, quelle qu'en soit la nature ou la dénomination, perçus, ou à percevoir, au profit du Gouvernement, de particuliers, d'Associations, ou d'établissements de toute espèce, les bâtiments Anglais et leurs cargaisons dans l'Empire Ottoman, et, réciproquement, les bâtiments Ottomans et leurs cargaisons dans les États et possessions de Sa Majesté Britannique, jouiront sous tous les rapports du même traitement que les bâtiments et cargaisons nationaux et ceux de la nation la plus favorisée.

Le prélèvement des droits maritimes susmentionnés aura lieu sur la base du tonnage net, tel qu'il résulte des pièces de bord.

Il est toutefois entendu que dans l'Empire Ottoman tout nouveau droit ou charge de cette nature, ainsi que toute augmentation de ces droits ou charges n'aura pour but que de rémunérer les services rendus, et sera toujours établi par décision spéciale de la Sublime Porte. Cette décision sera publiée officiellement au moins trois mois avant sa mise à exécution.

(Signed *ad referendum*; last paragraph under discussion.)

German Treaty 1890.	French Draft Treaty 1900.	British Draft Treaty.

ARTICLE XIII.

Dans les principaux ports et dans les villes importantes, autant que l'intérêt du commerce l'exigera, le Gouvernement Ottoman établira des entrepôts où les articles importés pourront être déposés contre un droit de magasinage ne dépassant pas 4 piastres par 100 Kilog. par mois ou fraction de mois, et, à défaut d'établissements publics de ce genre, il permettra l'entreposage des marchandises dans des magasins privés sous la double fermeture de l'autorité Douanière et du détenteur et contre un droit de surveillance conformément aux Règlements Douaniers. Le délai d'entreposage des marchandises n'excédera pas douze mois, pendant lesquels les importateurs auront la faculté de les réexporter sans payer un droit d'importation ou d'exportation. Passé ce délai, les marchandises seront passibles de l'intégralité des droits d'importation.

ARTICLE XIV.

Tout bâtiment considéré comme Ottoman par la loi Ottomane, et tout bâtiment considéré comme Allemand par la loi Allemande sera reconnu comme tel par les Parties Contractantes. Si un bâtiment était considéré comme Allemand d'après la loi Allemande et en même temps comme Ottoman d'après la loi Ottomane, chacune des deux Hautes Parties pourra, dans ces eaux territoriales, traiter ce bâtiment comme appartenant à sa nationalité.

ARTICLE XVI.

L'importation et le transit dans l'Empire Ottoman du tabac sous toutes ses formes et du sel sont et demeurent prohibés. La Sublime Porte s'engage à n'établir d'autres monopoles pendant la durée du présent Traité que sur les allumettes de toutes formes et de toutes substances, les cartes à jouer, les papiers à cigarettes, et le pétrole.

Les Allemands en Turquie seront soumis, en ce qui concerne le commerce intérieur ou l'exportation de ces articles, aux mêmes régimes et Règlements et acquitteront les mêmes droits que les sujets Ottomans les plus favorisés ou ceux de la nation la plus favorisée. Aucune taxe ne sera perçue à l'avenir sur le tabac et le sel quand ces articles seront exportés de Turquie par des Allemands ou en pays Allemand; cependant, les quantités de tabac et de sel qui seront exportées par des Allemands ou par leurs ayants cause devront être déclarées par les exportateurs à l'Administration des Douanes qui conservera, comme par le passé, son droit de surveillance sur l'exportation de ces produits, sans que pour cela elle puisse prétendre à aucune rétribution soit à titre d'enregistrement, soit à tout autre titre.

ARTICLE XII.

Les marchandises importées par les Français pourront être déposées pour un délai n'excédant pas douze mois dans les entrepôts spécialement établis à cet effet par les autorités Douanières Ottomanes contre le payement d'un droit d'entreposage conforme aux Règlements spéciaux sur la matière.

Dans les cas où ces entrepôts feraient défaut ou seraient insuffisants, il sera permis d'entreposer les marchandises dans des magasins privés sous la double fermeture de l'autorité Douanière et du détenteur des clefs, contre le payement d'un droit de surveillance conformément au Règlement Douanier.

Les marchandises déposées dans les dits entrepôts qui ne seront pas réexportées dans le terme ci-dessus mentionné, ou qui seront avant son expiration, livrées à la consommation intérieure devront payer les droits de douane, selon le Tarif, et, en plus, une taxe d'emmagasinage dans le cas où les marchandises auraient été entreposées dans les entrepôts du Gouvernement. Le montant de cette taxe ainsi que les formalités douanières concernant la mise en entrepôt des marchandises seront déterminées par le Règlement Douanier.

ARTICLE XIV.

Tout bâtiment considéré comme Ottoman par la loi Ottomane, et tout bâtiment considéré comme Français par la loi Française, sera reconnu comme tel par les deux Hautes Parties Contractantes.

Il est en outre entendu que, sauf les cas de vente judiciaire, les navires de l'une des deux Parties ne pourront être nationalisés dans les États de l'autre sans une déclaration de retrait de pavillon, délivrée par les autorités du pays dont ils relèvent.

ARTICLE XVIII.

L'importation et le transit dans l'Empire Ottoman du tabac sous toutes ses formes, y compris le tombéki, et du sel, sont et demeurent prohibés.

La Sublime Porte s'engage, pendant la durée du présent Traité, à n'établir d'autres monopoles que sur le papier à cigarette, l'alcool, les cartes à jouer, le pétrole, et les allumettes.

Les sujets Français en Turquie seront soumis, en ce qui concerne le commerce intérieur, ou l'exportation de ces articles, au même régime et aux mêmes Règlements et acquitteront les mêmes droits que les sujets Ottomans les plus favorisés et ceux de la nation la plus favorisée. Aucune taxe ne sera perçue à l'avenir sur le tabac et le sel quand ces articles seront exportés de la Turquie par des Français ou en France.

Cependant les quantités de tabac et de sel qui seront exportées par les Français ou par leurs ayants cause devront être déclarées par les exportateurs à l'Administration des Douanes qui conservera, comme par le passé, son droit de surveillance sur l'exportation de ces produits sans que par ces faits elle puisse prétendre à aucune rétribution soit à titre d'enrégistrement, soit à tout autre titre.

ARTICLE IX.

Le Gouvernement Ottoman, en tant que l'intérêt du commerce l'exige, établira dans les principaux ports et dans les villes importantes des entrepôts où les articles importés pour le commerce intérieur ou en transit pourront être déposés contre un droit d'emmagasinage ne dépassant pas un maximum d'une piastre or par 100 kilog. brut ou fraction de 100 kilog. par semaine ou fraction de semaine et, à défaut d'entrepôts publics de ce genre ou d'emplacements suffisants dans ces entrepôts, le Gouvernement Ottoman permettra l'entreposage des marchandises dans des magasins privés sous la double fermeture de l'autorité Douanière et du détenteur et soumis à un droit de surveillance, conformément aux Règlements Douaniers. Le délai d'entreposage des marchandises n'excédera pas douze mois, pendant lesquels les détenteurs auront la faculté d'ouvrir les colis, d'assortir les marchandises et de les remballer aussi bien que de les réexporter ou de les faire transiter en totalité ou en partie, sans payer aucun droit ou charge, sauf le droit d'entreposage. Les détenteurs peuvent également, pendant les douze mois, retirer une partie de leurs marchandises pour le commerce intérieur, en ne payant le droit d'entrée que sur la partie retirée. Dès que le terme de douze mois sera expiré les marchandises seront passibles des droits d'importation. (Under discussion.)

ARTICLE XV.

Tout bâtiment considéré comme Ottoman par la loi Ottomane, et tout bâtiment considéré comme Anglais par la loi Anglaise, sera reconnu comme tel par les deux Hautes Parties Contractantes.

Il est en outre entendu que, sauf le cas de vente judiciaire, les navires de l'une des deux Parties ne pourront être nationalisés dans les États de l'autre sans une déclaration de retrait de pavillon, délivrée par les autorités du pays dont ils relèvent.

ARTICLE XVIII.

L'importation et le transit dans l'Empire Ottoman du tabac sous toutes ses formes et du sel sont et demeurent prohibés.

La Sublime Porte s'engage, pendant la durée du présent Traité, à ne pas établir de nouveaux ou d'autres monopoles généraux ou locaux sauf sur le commerce et la fabrication des papiers à cigarettes, et sur le pétrole.

Les sujets Anglais en Turquie seront soumis, en ce qui concerne le commerce intérieur, ou l'exportation des susdits articles, aux mêmes régimes et Règlements et acquitteront les mêmes droits que les sujets Ottomans les plus favorisés et ceux de la nation la plus favorisée.

Les quantités de tabac et de sel qui seront exportées par les sujets Anglais, ou par leurs ayants cause, devront être déclarées par les exportateurs à l'Administration Douanière qui conservera, comme par le passé, son droit de surveillance sur l'exportation de ces produits sans que pour cela elle puisse prétendre à aucune rétribution soit à titre d'enregistrement, soit à tout autre titre. (Signed. Under discussion.)

Déclaration concernant l'Article XVIII (XVI).

MM. les Délégués Anglais ayant proposé à leurs collègues Ottomans de stipuler expressément dans l'Article XVI (18) que l'engagement de la Sublime Porte de ne pas établir d'autres monopoles que ceux mentionnés dans le dit Article comprend également les monopoles de dépôt, les Délégués Ottomans exposent que s'ils désirent éviter une stipulation expresse à cet égard c'est uniquement en vue d'éviter tout malentendu au sujet des dépôts dont le Gouvernement Impérial

No Article.

Relies on most-favoured-nation treatment.

(Article 1.)

ARTICLE XVII.

L'importation et le transit de la poudre, de la dynamite, et d'autres matières explosibles analogues, des canons, des armes de guerre et munitions militaires dans les États Ottomans sont formellement prohibés.

Le transit, y compris le passage par les Détroits, de la poudre, des cartouches et des projectiles chargés ou non chargés de poudre, ainsi que des armes dont l'importation est prohibée sera autorisé, dans les circonstances ordinaires, dans le cas où l'Ambassade d'Allemagne en fera spécialement la demande.

Ne sont pas comprises dans cette restriction générale les armes spécifiées dans le Tableau ci-annexé, qui sera officiellement porté à la connaissance du public.

Le commerce des armes et munitions reste sous la surveillance immédiate et spéciale du Gouvernement Ottoman.

ARTICLE XIX.

L'importation et le transit de la poudre, de la dynamite, et d'autres matières explosibles analogues, des [illegible] dans les États Ottomans sont formellement prohibés.

Le transit, y compris le passage par les Détroits de la poudre, des cartouches et projectiles chargés ou non chargés de poudre, ainsi que des armes dont l'importation est prohibée, sera autorisé dans les circonstances ordinaires dans le cas où l'Ambassade de France en fera spécialement la demande.

Ne sont pas comprises dans cette restriction générale les armes, dont la spécification est contenue dans le Tableau ci-annexé, qui sera officiellement porté à la connaissance du public. (See p. 24.)

Le commerce des armes et munitions reste sous la surveillance immédiate et spéciale du Gouvernement Ottoman.

ARTICLE XVI.

Le commerce de cabotage ainsi que toutes les opérations concernant le sauvetage, y compris le remorquage nécessaire au service des navires en détresse, de même que le service de remorqueurs pour l'amarrage et le démarrage des bâtiments dans les ports continueront à s'effectuer librement, pendant la durée de ce Traité, par les bâtiments Français dans toutes les eaux de l'Empire Ottoman.

Toutefois, la Sublime Porte, sauf dans les cas où une autorisation spéciale serait accordée par elle, réserve au pavillon Ottoman tout droit de cabotage dans la Mer de Marmara et les Détroits des Dardanelles et du Bosphore, aussi bien que dans les eaux territoriales renfermées, tel que le Golfe de Smyrne, &c.

Les vapeurs Français pourront toutefois, comme par le passé, faire escale aux échelles de la Mer de Marmara et Détroits des Dardanelles.

Quant à la navigation des lacs et fleuves elle est également réservée au pavillon Ottoman. Par exception, le port de la ville de Bassorah sera, comme par le passé, toujours ouvert à la navigation Française. En outre, les ports et villes qui se trouvent à une distance n'excédant pas 3 kilom. de la mer seront ouverts à la navigation Française.

Toutefois, en ce qui concerne le commerce du cabotage tout privilège ou facilité qui est ou qui serait par la suite accordé aux sujets, aux bâtiments, ou à la navigation de la nation la plus favorisée, serait immédiatement et sans condition accordé aux Français, aux bâtiments, et à la navigation Française.

Il est bien entendu que le cabotage en France et dans les possessions Françaises, de même que les opérations maritimes qui y sont assimilées, restent régies par les lois nationales Françaises.

serait dans le cas de céder l'Administration à un particulier ou à une Association quelconque, mais ils déclarent que, dans tous les cas, les Règlements concernant ces dépôts et les droits à percevoir seront conformes aux conditions et au taux fixés par l'Article XIII (9) déjà paraphé, et que les sujets Anglais jouiront à cet égard du traitement des sujets les plus favorisés tant nationaux qu'étrangers. MM. les Délégués Ottomans déclarent en outre que l'entreposage de la houille et du coke reste en dehors des stipulations des Articles 9 et 18, et pourra se faire librement comme par le passé.

ARTICLE XIX

L'importation et le transit de la poudre, de la dynamite, et d'autres matières explosibles analogues, des canons, des armes de guerre, et munitions militaires dans l'Empire Ottoman sont formellement prohibés.

Le transit, y compris le passage par les Détroits des Dardanelles, et de la Mer Noire de la poudre, des cartouches et projectiles chargés ou non chargés de poudre, ainsi que des armes dont l'importation est prohibée, sera autorisé dans les circonstances ordinaires dans le cas où l'Ambassade de Sa Majesté Britannique en fera spécialement la demande.

Ne sont pas compris dans cette mesure générale les armes spécifiées dans le Tableau ci-annexé,* qui sera officiellement porté à la connaissance du public.

Le commerce des armes et munitions reste sous la surveillance immédiate et spéciale du Gouvernement Ottoman.

ARTICLE XVI (Additionnel).

Le commerce de cabotage, qui consiste à transporter par mer d'un lieu à un autre du même État les produits du sol et de l'industrie indigènes ou étrangers, et les voyageurs, et toutes les opérations concernant le sauvetage, y compris le remorquage nécessaire au service des navires en détresse, de même que le service des remorqueurs pour l'amarrage et le démarrage des bâtiments dans les ports, continueront à s'effectuer librement, et sans entraves, pendant la durée de ce Traité par les bâtiments et sujets des deux pays.

Toutefois, la Sublime Porte, sauf dans les cas où une autorisation spéciale serait accordée par elle, réserve au pavillon Ottoman tout droit de cabotage dans la Mer de Marmara et les Détroits des Dardanelles, et de la Mer Noire aussi bien que dans les eaux territoriales renfermées, tel que le Golfe de Smyrne, &c.

Les vapeurs allant de Constantinople à destination d'un port étranger ou venant d'un port étranger à Constantinople, pourront toutefois, comme par le passé, faire escale aux échelles de la Mer de Marmara et des Détroits des Dardanelles.

Quant à la navigation des lacs et fleuves elle est également réservée au pavillon Ottoman. Par exception le port de la ville de Bassorah sera, comme par le passé, toujours ouvert à la navigation Anglaise. En outre, les ports et villes qui se trouvent à une distance de 15 kilom. de la mer seront considérés comme ports de mer ouverts à la navigation Anglaise.

Il est toutefois entendu qu'en ce qui concerne le commerce du cabotage, tout privilège ou facilité qui est ou qui serait par la suite accordé aux sujets, aux bâtiments, ou à la navigation de la nation la plus favorisée serait immédiatement et sans condition accordé aux sujets, aux bâtiments, et à la navigation Britannique. (Signed. Discussion reopened.)

ARTICLE XIII.

Dans le cas où un bâtiment Anglais ou Ottoman ferait naufrage dans les ports ou sur les côtes des

* See French Table, p. 24.

German Treaty 1890.	French Draft Treaty 1900.	British Draft Treaty.
		territoires respectifs des deux Hautes Parties Contractantes, tout secours possible lui sera porté tant pour la conservation des personnes et des effets que pour la sûreté des objets sauvés. Ces objets seront remis sans retard à qui de droit ou à la plus proche autorité Consulaire respective, sans être assujettis à aucun droit ou charge. Toutefois, il est entendu que la personne ou l'autorité qui prendra livraison des susdits objets devra rembourser les frais qui auraient été occasionnés pour leur sauvetage, et que le droit d'importation réglementaire sera acquitté pour tout objet rendu pour la consommation locale.
		Déclaration concernant l'Article XIII.
		Il est entendu entre les Hautes Parties Contractantes que les dispositions de l'Article XIII du Traité ne portent pas atteinte à la perception de toute rémunération pour sauvetage accordée d'après la loi dans le Royaume-Uni de la Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande, et des droits payables aux "Receivers of Wrecks" lorsque leurs services sont demandés par les parties intéressées, vu que cette rémunération et ces droits sont payés en pareil cas par les bâtiments Anglais et ceux de la nation la plus favorisée.
ARTICLE XXI.	ARTICLE XXIV.	ARTICLE XX.
Si l'Administration Douanière Ottomane croyait, en vertu de l'Article XVII de ce Traité, ne pas devoir laisser passer des marchandises qu'elle considérerait comme appartenant à la catégorie des articles prohibés, et que les sujets Allemands importeraient par la voie régulière, elle fera immédiatement connaître par écrit au Ministère Ottoman des Affaires Étrangères et à l'autorité Consulaire Allemande les motifs du refus de livrer la marchandise.	Si l'Administration Douanière Ottomane croyait, en vertu de l'Article XIX de ce Traité, ne pas devoir laisser passer des marchandises qu'elle considérerait comme appartenant à la catégorie des articles prohibés, et que les Français importeraient par la voie régulière, elle fera immédiatement connaître par écrit au Ministère Ottoman des Affaires Étrangères et à l'autorité Consulaire française, le motif du refus de livrer la marchandise.	Si l'Administration Douanière Ottomane croyait, en vertu de l'Article 19 (XVII) de ce Traité, ne pas devoir laisser passer des marchandises qu'elle considérerait comme appartenant à la catégorie des articles prohibés, et que les sujets Anglais auraient importées par la voie régulière, elle fera immédiatement connaître par écrit au Ministère Ottoman des Affaires Étrangères, ainsi qu'à l'autorité Consulaire Anglaise, les motifs sur lesquels elle base son refus de livrer ces marchandises.
Le Ministère Ottoman des Affaires Étrangères, après entente avec l'autorité Allemande, décidera s'il y a lieu de confirmer le refus de la Douane, et dans ce cas le sujet Allemand sera tenu de réexporter la marchandise sans aucun délai; dans le cas contraire, l'Administration Douanière laissera passer librement la marchandise après en avoir perçu les droits réglementaires.	Le Ministère Ottoman des Affaires Étrangères, après entente avec l'autorité Française décidera s'il y a lieu de confirmer le refus de la Douane, et dans ce cas le Français sera tenu de réexporter la marchandise sans aucun délai; dans le cas contraire, l'Administration Douanière laissera passer librement la marchandise après en avoir perçu les droits réglementaires.	Le Ministère Ottoman des Affaires Étrangères, après entente avec l'autorité Anglaise, décidera s'il y a lieu de confirmer le refus de la Douane. Dans le cas affirmatif, le sujet Anglais sera tenu de réexporter ses marchandises sans retard; dans le cas contraire, l'Administration Douanière laissera passer librement la marchandise après en avoir perçu les droits réglementaires.
Jusqu'à ce qu'une décision soit prise, la marchandise arrêtée restera en dépôt à la Douane, qui en sera responsable vis-à-vis du sujet Allemand.	Jusqu'à ce qu'une décision soit prise, la marchandise arrêtée restera en dépôt à la Douane, qui en sera responsable vis-à-vis du Français.	Jusqu'à ce qu'une décision intervienne à cet égard, les marchandises en question seront déposées sans aucun frais ou charge à la Douane, qui en sera responsable vis-à-vis du sujet Anglais y intéressé.
III du Protocole.	*III du Protocole.*	*Déclaration relative à l'Article 19 (XVII).*
En prohibant l'importation "d'autres matières explosibles" on n'a pas voulu empêcher le commerce et l'importation en Turquie des matières qui, par leur nature, sont explosibles dans certaines circonstances ou qui pourraient être employées à la fabrication de matières explosibles, tels que le soufre, l'éther, le nitrate de soude, mais seulement le commerce et l'importation de matières destinées exclusivement ou du moins essentiellement à faire sauter des mines ou à des emplois analogues.	En prohibant à l'Article XVIII l'importation d'autres matières explosibles, on n'a pas voulu empêcher le commerce et l'importation en Turquie de matières qui par leur nature sont explosibles dans certaines circonstances, ou qui pourraient être employées à la fabrication de matières explosibles, tel que le soufre, l'éther, le nitrate de soude, mais seulement le commerce et l'importation de matières destinées exclusivement ou du moins essentiellement à faire sauter des mines ou à des emplois analogues.	En prohibant l'importation d'autres matières explosibles on n'a pas voulu empêcher le commerce et l'importation en Turquie des matières qui, par leur nature, sont explosibles dans certaines circonstances, ou qui pourraient être employées à la fabrication de matières explosibles, telles que le soufre, l'éther, le nitrate de soude, &c.; mais seulement le commerce et l'importation de matières destinées exclusivement ou du moins essentiellement à faire sauter des mines ou à des emplois analogues.
	ARTICLE XVII.	ARTICLE XVII.
	Les voyageurs Français et les marchandises Françaises entrant en Turquie par chemin de fer jouiront des mêmes tarifs et seront Traités à tous les points de vue de la même manière que les voyageurs ou les marchandises importées par voie ferrée de la nation la plus favorisée, ou de la classe la plus favorisée parmi les sujets Ottomans. Il en sera de même pour les marchandises originaires des pays jouissant en Turquie du traitement de la nation la plus favorisée, importées par des Français ou leurs ayants cause.	En ce qui concerne le mode de transport, les frais, les facilités, et autres avantages y afférents, le Gouvernement Ottoman s'engage, dans les limites de ses droits et prérogatives, à traiter les marchandises produits du sol, de l'industrie, ou de provenance des États et possessions de Sa Majesté Britannique, transportées par voie ferrée dans l'Empire Ottoman, exactement de la même manière que les marchandises importées par les sujets de la nation la plus favorisée ou la classe la plus favorisée parmi les sujets Ottomans. Il en sera de même pour les marchandises originaires des pays jouissant en Turquie du traitement de la
	Le Gouvernement Ottoman s'engage en conséquence, dans les limites de ses droits et prérogatives, à ne	

ARTICLE XVIII.

Les capitaines des bâtiments de commerce ayant à bord des marchandises à destination de l'Empire Ottoman seront tenus, immédiatement après leur arrivée au port de destination, de déposer à la Douane deux copies exactes de leur manifeste certifiées par eux conformes à l'original. De même ils doivent avant leur départ d'un port Ottoman déposer à la Douane une copie du manifeste relatant les marchandises chargées sur le navire.

Le manifeste original, soit à l'arrivée soit au départ, sera présenté en même temps que les copies pour être confronté et restitué dans les vingt-quatre heures.

Les employés de la Douane ne peuvent procéder en aucun cas à la visite et à la perquisition des bâtiments de commerce sans en avoir donné au préalable connaissance aux employés Consulaires Allemands pour leur donner la faculté d'assister. Cette notification aux employés Consulaires devra leur être communiquée à temps et mentionner l'heure où l'on procédera à ces formalités.

Les excédents ou déficits résultant du rapprochement des manifestes avec la cargaison donneront lieu à l'application des amendes prévues par le Règlement Douanier Ottoman.

L'Administration Douanière Ottomane portera par le dit Règlement à la connaissance du public les mesures nécessaires en vue de prévenir les fraudes et la contrebande tant en ce qui concerne l'introduction des marchandises que l'exportation ou le transit par terre ou par mer l'entremise des postes, des chemins de fer ou par tous autres voies et moyens.

permettre à aucune Compagnie de Chemin de Fer existant ou qui se formerait à l'avenir, d'établir pour les marchandises, produits du sol, de l'industrie, ou de provenance de la France, un traitement différent ou moins favorable que pour celle de toute autre nation.

Aucun avantage ou facilité en matière de Tarif ne sera accordé sans l'Empire Ottoman à une voie d'importation par chemin de fer sans que les mêmes avantages et facilités ne soient de même et immédiatement acquis, à conditions égales, aux autres voies d'importation par chemin de fer desservant le commerce Français, dans les limites et prérogatives du Gouvernement Impérial vis-à-vis des chemins de fer.

ARTICLE XX.

Les capitaines des bâtiments de commerce Français ayant à bord des marchandises à destination d'un port de la Turquie, seront tenus dès leur arrivée de faire déposer à la Douane deux copies, certifiées conformes à l'original, du manifeste de la cargaison, qui doit être débarquée dans ce port, ainsi que le manifeste original de toute la cargaison.

Le dernier document doit être restitué une demi-heure avant le moment fixé pour le départ du bateau. De même avant leur départ ils doivent faire déposer à la Douane une copie du manifeste des marchandises chargées sur leurs navires dans ce port.

Les agents des bateaux Français pourront se constituer garants pour l'accomplissement de toutes les formalités douanières prescrites par le Règlement Douanier officiellement publié. Les capitaines en seront dès lors dispensés.

Quant au transbordement des marchandises de bord à bord il se fera sur un avis préalable donné à la Douane, contre un reçu qui sera délivré immédiatement par le préposé de cette Administration.

nation la plus favorisée et importées par des sujets Britanniques ou leurs ayants cause.

Le Gouvernement Ottoman s'engage, en conséquence, à ne permettre à aucune Compagnie de Chemin de Fer existante ou qui se formerait à l'avenir d'établir, pour les marchandises, produits du sol, de l'industrie, ou de provenance des États et possessions de Sa Majesté Britannique, ni pour les marchandises des pays jouissant du traitement de la nation la plus favorisée, et importées par les sujets Anglais ou leurs ayants cause, un traitement différent ou moins favorable que pour toute autre marchandise étrangère.

Aucun avantage ou facilité ne sera accordée, à conditions égales, à une voie d'importation par chemin de fer sans que les mêmes avantages et facilités ne soient de même et immédiatement acquis aux autres voies d'importation par chemin de fer desservant le commerce Anglais.

ARTICLE XXI.

Le capitaine ou agent des armateurs d'un bâtiment de commerce Anglais ayant à bord des marchandises à destination de l'Empire Ottoman sera tenu, dans un délai maximum de trente-six heures après l'arrivée de ce bâtiment dans le port de destination, de déposer à la Douane deux copies du manifeste comprenant toutes les marchandises de la cargaison destinées à être débarquées dans ce port et certifiées par lui conformes à l'original. Le manifeste original complet sera présenté en même temps que les copies pour être confronté sans retard avec elles. Dès que la confrontation sera terminée, le débarquement des marchandises pourra commencer, et le manifeste original sera restitué dans les vingt-quatre heures ou immédiatement

après que le débarquement des marchandises destinées à ce port aura été achevé.

Le capitaine ou son représentant, signataire du manifeste, devra répondre de l'exactitude des données y contenues, en ce qui concerne le nombre, marques, numéros, et espèces des colis chargés et pour ce qui concerne le poids et la nature des marchandises emballées.

Les excédents ou déficits résultant de la comparaison des manifestes avec la marchandise débarquée donneront lieu à l'application des amendes prévues par l'Article XXIV. Toutefois, les différences de poids en plus ou en moins entre le manifeste et les marchandises non emballées, ainsi que celles susceptibles de pertes ou déchets pendant le voyage qui n'excéderaient pas 10 pour cent, de même que toute différence justifiée provenant d'un cas de force majeure ou d'accident constaté, ne donneront pas lieu au prélèvement des amendes.

Le manifeste de départ sera présenté par le capitaine avant son départ, ou dans un délai maximum de trois jours après le départ du bâtiment par l'agent des armateurs établi dans le port d'embarquement qui en aurait pris l'engagement nécessaire envers la Douane. Le manifeste doit contenir la liste, le nombre, la nature, les marques, et numéros nécessaires pour la constatation des colis embarqués au port de départ, le poids, et la nature des marchandises embarquées sans être emballées, ainsi que les noms des chargeurs et la destination de tous les objets chargés.

Immédiatement après la remise du manifeste de départ, la Douane délivrera au capitaine un reçu. Les bâtiments qui ne sont pas représentés dans le port de départ par un agent qui aurait pris l'engagement voulu par la prompte remise ultérieure du manifeste de départ, ne pourront pas quitter le port sans être munis du reçu douanier constatant la remise du dit manifeste.

En ce qui concerne l'accomplissement des formalités douanières prescrites par le Règlement Douanier, officiellement publié, les agents des bateaux à vapeur Anglais pourront se constituer garant une fois pour

ARTICLE XIX.

Toute opération de douane en Turquie, soit à l'arrivée soit au départ, doit être précédée d'une déclaration spéciale signée par le détenteur de la marchandise ou par son représentant.

La déclaration doit contenir toutes les indications nécessaires pour l'application des droits; ainsi, outre la nature, l'espèce, la qualité, la provenance, et la destination de la marchandise, elle doit énoncer le poids, le nombre, la mesure ou, suivant le cas, la valeur. La Douane devra, en cas de contestation, procéder à la vérification de la susdite déclaration, conformément aux prescriptions spéciales du Règlement mentionné à l'Article XX du présent Traité.

Tout refus de faire la déclaration à l'arrivée ou au départ, tout retard apporté à la dite déclaration, toute différence en plus ou en moins entre les marchandises et la déclarations donne lieu à l'application de la pénalité prévue par le Règlement Douanier Ottoman.

ARTICLE XXI.

Toute opération de douane en Turquie pour l'importation, l'exportation, le transit, la mise en entrepôt des marchandises, doit être précédée d'une déclaration suivant les prescriptions du Règlement Dounier, par le détenteur de la marchandise ou par son représentant.

Tout refus de faire la déclaration, tout retard non justifié apporté à la dite déclaration, toute différence en plus ou en moins, excédant le 10 pour cent pour les marchandises non avariées entre la quantité des marchandises et celle portée sur la déclaration donnent lieu à l'application de la pénalité prévue par le Règlement Dounier.

toutes par acte notarié relativement à toute contravention de leurs capitaines.

(Signed *ad referendum.*)

ARTICLE XXII.

Dans l'Empire Ottoman toute opération de douane relative à l'importation, à l'exportation, ou au transit, au transbordement, à l'entrepôt, et au transport par mer d'une Douane Ottomane à une autre, doit être précédée d'une déclaration spéciale signée par le détenteur de la marchandise ou par son représentant.

Les déclarations concernant l'importation doivent être présentées aux Douanes dans les huit jours qui suivent le débarquement de la marchandise. Elles doivent énoncer: (1) les nom, prénoms, nationalité, et domicile du déclarant; (2) les lieux de provenance et d'origine des marchandises, ainsi que le nom et pavillon du navire qui les a transportées; (3) le nombre et les poids des colis, la nature des emballages, et les marques et numéros nécessaires pour leur identification, la dénomination des marchandises contenues dans chaque colis, ainsi que pour chaque catégorie de marchandises, le poids, ou selon le cas, le nombre, de ces marchandises, conformément aux unités d'après lesquelles elles sont taxées dans le Tarif. Les déclarations concernant les emballages doivent également énoncer leur valeur. Dans le cas où le détenteur de la marchandise déclarerait ne pas être en état de faire lui-même la classification des marchandises conformément aux indications du Tarif, il pourra être autorisé à vérifier dans la Douane, et sous la surveillance de cette dernière, le contenu des colis avant de dresser la déclaration écrite. Il aura également la faculté de remettre des échantillons des marchandises à la Commission, dont mention est faite dans l'Article XXV, qui lui indiquera les droits d'entrée y afférent.

Si la déclaration ne contenait pas toutes les indications voulues pour le calcul des droits, la Douane procédera à une vérification détaillée des colis en question. Si, par contre, la déclaration contenait toutes les indications voulues pour la classification des marchandises d'après le Tarif et le calcul des droits, la Douane se bornera à vérifier la cinquième partie des colis à son choix, pourvu que partout l'on puisse constater une parfaite exactitude entre les données de la déclaration et les résultats de la vérification. Toutefois, sur l'ordre formel du chef de la Douane, la vérification pourra comprendre même la totalité des colis.

Toute différence de poids en plus ou en moins entre les marchandises et la déclaration donnera lieu à l'application des pénalités prévues par l'Article XXIV à moins que cette différence n'excède pas 10 pour cent pour les marchandises non avariées.

Les déclarations concernant les marchandises destinées à l'exportation ou à transiter par voie ferrée en wagons plombés doivent contenir:—

I. Les nom, prénoms, nationalité, et domicile du déclarant.

II. Les lieux de provenance et d'origine des marchandises.

III. Le nom et le pavillon du navire qui doit les embarquer ou la voie ferrée qui doit les transporter, ainsi que la destination de la marchandise.

IV. Le nombre et le poids des colis, la nature des emballages et les marques et numéros voulus pour leur identification, la dénomination des marchandises contenues dans chaque colis, et le poids ou le nombre de ces marchandises.

Dès que la déclaration d'exportation sera présentée à la Douane un permis d'embarquement sera immédiatement délivré, et l'embarquement des marchandises munies de ce permis pourra s'effectuer sans aucun retard si même elles n'arrivaient pas de la Douane.

Les déclarations concernant les marchandises destinées à transiter par toute autre voie que celle du chemin de fer en wagons plombés, à être entreposées ou bien à être expédiées d'une Douane Ottomane à une autre, doivent contenir toutes les indications voulues pour

GERMAN TREATY 1890.

ARTICLE XX.

Les marchandises introduites en contrebande seront passibles de confiscation au profit du Trésor, sans préjudice des droits de douane perçus dans tous les cas, et des amendes qui pourraient être légalement exigibles, pourvu que la fraude soit dûment et légalement prouvée, et qu'un procès-verbal du fait de contrebande soit dressé et communiqué sans délai à l'autorité Consulaire du sujet Allemand auquel appartiennent les marchandises saisies. Sur la demande de la partie intéressée, l'affaire devra être jugée par le Tribunal de Commerce, ou, à défaut d'un tel, par un autre Tribunal. Tant que ce jugement n'aura pas été rendu, il ne pourra être disposé définitivement des marchandises saisies au profit du fisc Ottoman.

Si la Douane Ottomane a des raisons sérieuses pour présumer l'existence d'articles introduits en contrebande dans des endroits quelconques des districts-frontières, elle pourra procéder dans les magasins ou demeures à toute perquisition immédiate qu'elle jugera nécessaire.

Le double de l'ordre de perquisition sera envoyé à l'autorité Consulaire, qui devra y assister ou s'y faire représenter sans occasionner aucun retard.

Les contestations sur la nature, l'espèce, la classe, l'origine, ou la valeur des marchandises seront vidées par voie administrative.

Le Règlement Douanier Ottoman déterminera le mode d'exécution des dispositions ci-dessus.

FRENCH DRAFT TREATY 1900.

ARTICLE XXII.

Les marchandises introduites en contrebande dans l'Empire Ottoman seront passibles des peines édictées par le Règlement Général.

Aussitôt que les marchandises présumées être en contrebande seront saisies, les autorités Douanières, après enquête, dresseront un procès-verbal, qui sera communiqué immédiatement à l'autorité Consulaire. Le prévenu aura un délai de quinze jours pour déférer la question au Tribunal de Commerce compétent. Tant que ce jugement n'aura pas été rendu, il ne pourra être disposé de ces marchandises au profit du Trésor Ottoman.

Dès que, par un jugement devenu définitif, la marchandise aurait été reconnue introduite en contrebande, elle sera confisquée, sans préjudice des droits de douane dus et des amendes encourues.

Dans le cas où un bâtiment de commerce s'arrêterait ou louvoierait près du littoral Ottoman de manière à inspirer des doutes sur la nature de ses intentions, la Douane Ottomane pourra exiger la production de son manifeste, et si elle croit une perquisition nécessaire, s'entendre à cet effet avec l'autorité Consulaire; tout en gardant en vue le bâtiment suspect.

Si un bâtiment de commerce Français d'une portée inférieure à 300 tonnes refuse de communiquer son manifeste, ou si ce manifeste présente des indices de fraude, un agent douanier ou un officier de la marine de l'État commandant un croiseur douanier ou un navire de la flotte Ottomane pourra l'inviter, et, en cas de résistance, le forcer à l'accompagner dans le port le plus proche ayant un Agent Consulaire Français; le bâtiment y sera retenu jusqu'à ce que la perquisition ait été opérée.

De même, si la Douane Ottomane, dans les limites de la zone de surveillance, a des raisons sérieuses pour présumer l'existence des marchandises introduites en contrebande dans un magasin ou la demeure d'un Français, elle s'entendra avec l'autorité Consulaire en vue de la perquisition à y opérer.

Le Consul de France sera tenu de procéder sans retard à ces perquisitions, à bord ou à terre, sur la demande et avec l'assistance de l'autorité Douanière.

Si le Consul, ou son délégué, ne se présente pas à l'heure fixée pour la perquisition, les autorités Douanières constateront le fait, et en renouvelant leur demande, garderont à vue le bâtiment ou le domicile suspect jusqu'à l'arrivée du Consul ou de son délégué.

Les frais de surestaries, ainsi que tout autre frais occasionnés par ces perquisitions à terre ou à bord seront à la charge de la Douane, si le cas de contrebande n'est prouvé, sauf les frais causés par l'arrivée tardive du Consul.

Si la Douane Ottomane a des raisons sérieuses pour présumer l'existence d'articles en contrebande dans des endroits quelconques situés à une distance n'excédant pas 2 kilom. du littoral, elle s'entendra, avec l'autorité Consulaire Britannique, pour y opérer toute perquisition qui sera jugée nécessaire par le chef de la Douane, mais cette perquisition ne pourra s'effectuer sans le concours de l'autorité Consulaire.

Le double de l'ordre de perquisition sera envoyé à l'autorité Consulaire, qui devra y assister ou s'y faire représenter sans occasionner aucun retard.

Toute contravention aux prescriptions du Règlement Douanier pourra entraîner l'application des amendes prévues par le dit Règlement, pourvu que l'avis préalable quant à ces prescriptions aurait été dûment donné.

Le montant de ces amendes ne dépasse 1,000 piastres or que dans le cas de récidive ou de refus absolu de se conformer aux dites prescriptions. Dans ces derniers cas le maximum des amendes est porté à 3,000 piastres or.

ARTICLE XXIII.

Dans l'Empire Ottoman la Douane aura le droit de placer des gardiens à bord de tout bâtiment de commerce Anglais ancré dans les ports et rades, afin de surveiller le débarquement, l'embarquement, ou le transbordement des marchandises, sans toutefois entraver les opérations légitimes du navire.

Dans le cas où un bâtiment de commerce Anglais s'arrête dans un port Ottoman, ou navigue à proximité des côtes Ottomanes, de manière à inspirer des doutes sur la nature de ses intentions, la Douane Ottomane s'entendra avec l'autorité Consulaire Britannique pour opérer une perquisition à bord. Toutefois, les employés de la Douane ne pourront procéder à la visite et à la perquisition d'un bâtiment Anglais sans le concours de l'autorité Consulaire Britannique, qui, dans les dix heures après la réception de la notification, devra y assister ou s'y faire représenter.

Cette notification devra être faite aux autorités Con-

BRITISH DRAFT TREATY.

l'identification des colis et pour le calcul des droits à prélever d'après le Tarif.

Les opérations de transbordement d'un bâtiment à l'autre dans les ports ou rades Ottomans seront préalablement portées à la connaissance de la Douane par un extrait du manifeste, qui comprendra tous les colis à transborder et qui sera signé par le capitaine ou son représentant.

(Signed *ad referendum.*)

ARTICLE XXIV.

Les marchandises dûment constatées en contrebande dans l'Empire Ottoman seront passibles de confiscation au profit du Trésor sans préjudice des droits de douane perçus dans tous les cas, et des amendes prévues par le Règlement Douanier.

Toutes les fois qu'un sujet Anglais sera en cause comme auteur ou complice dans un acte de contrebande, un procès-verbal du fait, ainsi que l'Arrêté administratif qui le condamne, seront communiqués, dans un délai de trois jours de leurs dates respectives, à l'autorité Consulaire Britannique la plus proche.

Le sujet Anglais aura le droit de faire opposition à l'Arrêté administratif, soit en invoquant la décision définitive de l'Administration Centrale, soit en interjetant appel par-devant le Tribunal Mixte de Commerce, ou, à défaut d'un tel Tribunal, par-devant le Tribunal Ottoman compétent. Cependant, à défaut d'opposition notifiée à la Douane dans un délai de quinze jours à partir de la réception de l'Arrêté par l'autorité Consulaire, la décision prise administrativement restera définitive et exécutoire. Tant que le jugement définitif n'aura pas été rendu, il ne pourra être disposé des objets saisis au profit du fisc Impérial Ottoman.

Protocole (II).

Les Règlements Douaniers ayant pour but de régler en Turquie l'application des principes contenus dans le Traité de Commerce conclu en date de ce jour, ainsi que les modifications qu'on pourra y introduire dans l'avenir, seront rédigés par les soins de l'Administration Ottomane et communiqués au Représentant du Gouvernement Allemand avant leur mise en vigueur, afin qu'ils puissent être portés à temps à connaissance du commerce Allemand.

Le Gouvernement Impérial Ottoman modifiera les [illegible] Règlements qui seraient en contradiction avec les principes contenus dans le dit Traité et notamment avec les Articles XVIII, XIX et XX relatifs aux formalités douanières pour la présentation du manifeste, la déclaration des marchandises, les perquisitions à opérer sur les navires et dans les districts-frontières, les pénalités à appliquer en cas de contrebande, ainsi que les formalités et droits d'entrepossage, contradictions qui lui seraient signalées par le Représentant du Gouvernement Allemand.

Protocole (V).

Les Règlements Douaniers ayant pour but de régler l'application des principes contenus dans le Traité de Commerce conclu avec la France en date du

, ainsi que les modifications qu'on pourrait y introduire à l'avenir seront rédigés par les soins de l'Administration Douanière Ottomane et communiqués au Représentant de la France en temps utile avant leur mise en vigueur pour les fins requises.

Le Gouvernement Ottoman modifiera les points de ces Règlements qui seraient en contradiction avec les principes contenus dans le dit Traité et notamment ceux relatifs aux formalités douanières pour la présentation du manifeste, la déclaration des marchandises, les perquisitions à opérer sur les navires et dans les districts-frontières, les pénalités à appliquer en cas de contrebande ainsi que les formalités et droits d'entrepossage; contradictions qui lui seraient signalées par le Représentant du Gouvernement Français.

Declaration.

Les Règlements Douaniers ayant pour but de régler l'application des principes contenus dans le Traité de Commerce conclu avec le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume-Uni de la Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande en date du , ainsi que les modifications qu'on pourrait y introduire à l'avenir seront rédigés par les soins de l'Administration Douanière Ottomane et communiqués au Représentant de Sa Majesté Britannique au moins trois mois avant leur mise en vigueur pour les fins requises. Le Gouvernement Impérial Ottoman changera les clauses de ces Règlements et des projets de modification qui ne seraient pas conformes aux principes contenus dans le Traité ou qui seraient en contradiction avec le Traité, mêmes qui lui seraient signalés par le Représentant de Sa Majesté Britannique.

ARTICLE XXII.

Le présent Traité sera exécutoire dans toutes les possessions de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, situées en Europe, en Asie, et en Afrique. Il en sera de même dans la Principauté vassale de Bulgarie et l'Egypte, toute différence qui, après accord établi dans les limites des Traités et des Firmans Impériaux entre les Agents du Gouvernement Allemand et l'Administration Locale, résulterait pour le Tarif Général faisant partie du présent Traité, sera communiquée au Gouvernement Ottoman.

ARTICLE XXIII.

Toutes les contestations concernant l'application du Tarif de Douane, la nature, l'espèce, la classe, l'origine, et, s'il y a lieu, la valeur des marchandises, seront vidées par voie administrative.

Les contestations seront jugées en dernier ressort par une Commission, instituée à l'Administration Générale des Contributions Indirectes, et qui sera composée d'un Président et de deux fonctionnaires nommés par le Gouvernement Ottoman, auxquels seront adjoints deux négociants experts choisis par l'intéressé dans une liste de négociants Ottomans et étrangers.

Cette liste, qui contiendra les noms des négociants notables, sera dressée sans distinction de nationalité, et publiée par les soins de l'Administration des Contributions Indirectes.

Quant aux contestations relatives à l'application des amendes et pénalités prévues par le Règlement Douanier, à l'exception de celles mentionnées ci-dessus ayant directement trait au Tarif Douanier et devant être vidées par voie administrative, les Français conserveront le droit d'appel devant le Tribunal de Commerce compétent dans le délai de quinze jours fixé par l'Article précédent.

Protocole (IV).

L'Administration Générale des Contributions Indirectes invitera au commencement de chaque année le Consul de France à lui désigner les négociants Français dont les noms seront inscrits sur la liste des experts conformément aux dispositions de l'Article XXIII du Traité de Commerce.

ARTICLE XXV.

Le présent Traité sera exécutoire dans toutes les possessions de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, situées en Europe, en Asie, et en Afrique. Il en sera de même dans la Principauté vassale de Bulgarie et l'Egypte. Toute différence qui, après accord établi dans les limites des Traités et des Firmans Impériaux entre les Agents du Gouvernement Français et l'Administration Locale, résulterait pour le Tarif Général faisant partie du présent Traité, sera communiquée au Gouvernement Ottoman.

Dans l'Empire Ottoman tout différend provenant ou de l'application du Tarif qui forme partie intégrante du présent Traité ou du Règlement Douanier qui ne sera pas vidé à la satisfaction des deux Parties par une Commission compétente locale sera décidé par une Commission siégeant à Constantinople et instituée par la Direction des Contributions Indirectes de l'Empire.

Cette Commission sera composée d'un haut fonctionnaire de la Douane comme Président, et de quatre membres dont deux experts choisis par le réclamant d'une liste de vingt personnes dressée à cet effet par les représentants du commerce Anglais, et agréée au commencement de chaque année par la Sublime Porte et le Représentant de Sa Majesté Britannique.

Les experts auront voix dans les délibérations et dans la décision, et en cas d'égalité de voix le vote du Président décidera.

Toutefois, à l'exception des différends concernant la classification des marchandises, il sera facultatif pour les réclamants de faire appel contre les décisions de la Commission Spéciale au Tribunal du Commerce Mixte, avec l'assistance des autorités Consulaires Anglaises.

(Not discussed. Was presented to Ottoman Delegates.)

ARTICLE XXVI.

Application of Treaty in Ottoman dominions and allowance for duties already paid in Egypt and Bulgaria.

N.B. This Article has not yet been presented.

German Treaty 1890.	French Draft Treaty 1900.	British Draft Treaty.
Il est bien entendu qu'à l'arrivée dans les autres parties de l'Empire de marchandises expédiées d'Égypte, munies de reftiés, conformément à l'Article IX, et dont les droits de douane seraient, par suite des modifications consenties, inférieurs à ceux portés sur le Tarif Général, la différence en plus sera acquittée à la Douane du lieu de destination.	Il est bien entendu qu'à l'arrivée dans les autres parties de l'Empire de marchandises expédiées d'Égypte, munies de reftiés, conformément à l'Article XIX, et dont les droits de douane seraient par suite des modifications consenties, inférieurs à ceux portés sur le Tarif Général, la différence en plus sera acquittée à la Douane du lieu de destination.	
ARTICLE XXIII.	ARTICLE XXVI.	ARTICLE XXVIII.
Les stipulations du présent Traité s'appliquent à l'Empire Allemand ainsi qu'à tout le territoire qui sera compris dans l'Union Douanière Allemande.	Les stipulations du présent Traité s'appliquent au territoire de la France ainsi qu'à toutes ses possessions.	Les stipulations du présent Traité seront applicables, en tant que les lois le permettent, à toutes les Colonies et possessions de Sa Majesté Britannique, à l'exception de celles énumérées ci-après, à savoir :— L'Inde. Le Canada. La Terre-Neuve. Le Cap de Bonne-Espérance. Le Natal. La Nouvelle-Galles du Sud. Victoria. Queensland. La Tasmanie. L'Australie Méridionale. L'Australie Occidentale. La Nouvelle-Zélande. Toutefois, les stipulations du présent Traité seront rendues applicables à chacune des Colonies et possessions ci-dessus mentionnées, pourvu qu'une notification à cet effet soit faite par le Représentant de Sa Majesté Britannique près la Sublime Porte au Ministère Ottoman des Affaires Étrangères dans l'espace de deux ans à partir de la date de l'échange des ratifications du présent Traité.
ARTICLE XXV.	ARTICLE XXVII	ARTICLE XXIX.
Le présent Traité avec le Tarif y annexé sera substitué au Traité entre les États du Zollverein Allemand et de la Sublime Porte du 20 Mars, 1862, et au Traité entre la Sublime Porte et les villes Hanséatiques du 27 Septembre, 1862. Il entrera en vigueur le 1er (13) Mars, 1891, on, après entente préalable, avant si possible. Il restera exécutoire pendant vingt et un ans, c'est-à-dire, jusqu'au 28 Février (12 Mars), 1912, date à laquelle il prendra fin sans qu'il y ait lieu à une dénonciation préalable, sous la réserve qu'au bout de la septième et de la quatorzième année chacune des deux Parties ait le droit de proposer les modifications suggérées par l'expérience. Le présent Traité sera ratifié et les ratifications en seront échangées à Constantinople le plus tôt possible. En foi de quoi, les Plénipotentiaires respectifs l'ont signé et y ont apposé leurs cachets. Fait à Constantinople en [illegible]uble original, le 26e jour du mois d'Août, de l'an 1890.	Le présent Traité et le Tarif y annexé qui en fait partie intégrante entreront en vigueur après l'échange des ratifications et auront force et valeur pendant vingt et un ans. Un an avant l'expiration de la septième et quatorzième année, chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes aura la faculté de notifier à l'autre si elle a l'intention de réviser ce Traité, afin d'y introduire d'un commun accord certaines modifications démontrées nécessaires par l'expérience. Dans le cas où cette notification ou cet accord n'aurait pas eu lieu, il demeure entendu que le Traité existant continuera à rester en vigueur. Note.—French Government wish it to be understood that paragraph 3 of this Article shall not deprive either Power of des droits qui pourraient lui être acquis au moment de la signature du présent Traité.	Le présent Traité sera substitué au Traité de Commerce du 29 Avril, 1861, et entrera en vigueur le 1er (13) Mars, 1891, on après entente préalable, avant si possible. Il restera exécutoire pendant vingt et un ans, c'est-à-dire, jusqu'au 1er (13) Mars, 1912, sous la réserve qu'avant l'expiration de la septième et de la quatorzième année, chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes ait le droit de proposer à l'autre les modifications suggérées par l'expérience. Dans le cas où aucune des deux Parties Contractantes n'aurait notifié douze mois avant l'expiration de la susdite période de vingt et une années son intention de mettre fin au présent Traité, celui-ci demeurera obligatoire jusqu'à l'expiration d'une année à partir du jour où l'une ou l'autre des Parties Contractantes l'aura dénoncé. Le présent Traité sera ratifié et les ratifications en seront échangées à Constantinople le plus tôt possible. En foi de quoi, les Plénipotentiaires respectifs l'ont signé et y ont apposé leurs cachets. Fait à Constantinople en double original, le
		ARTICLE.
		Le Tarif de droits de douane confirmé par les deux Hautes Parties Contractantes formant partie intégrante de ce Traité, et y annexé, sera mis en vigueur en même temps que le présent Traité, et restera valable pendant toute sa durée. Toutefois, à la fin de la septième et de la quatorzième année, chacune des deux Hautes Parties Contractantes aura le droit, en les différences qui pourraient s'être produites dans la valeur des marchandises, de demander la revision du susdit Tarif, sans que la revision simultanée du Traité même soit obligatoire. Celle des Hautes Parties Contractantes qui aurait l'intention de demander ainsi la revision du Tarif sera tenue d'en prévenir l'autre au moins une année avant l'expiration des termes précités.

German Treaty 1890.	French Draft Treaty 1909.	British Draft Treaty.

Article still under discussion

Toutefois, le Gouvernement Français se réserve la faculté de dénoncer à toute époque les stipulations de ce Traité en vertu desquels le traitement de la nation la plus favorisée est assuré de part et d'autre aux marchandises des deux pays pour le payement des droits d'importation. Ces stipulations cesseront de produire leurs effets douze mois après la dénonciation qu'en sera faite.

TABLEAUX DES ARMES.

Chapitre I.

Est permis l'importation des armes de chasse et de luxe ainsi que des armes de commerce, des munitions, et du matériel ci-dessous spécifié.

Première Catégorie.

Armes Importables.

I. Les fusils et mousquetons de chasse, système Lefaucheux, Lancaster et autres à un ou deux coups se chargeant par la bouche ou par la culasse rayés ou à âme lisse, à la condition que le diamètre de la bouche ne dépasse pas 20 millim.

II. Les armes de luxe, savoir :—

Les armes antiques ainsi que les fusils, carabines, mousquetons, révolvers, et pistolets de toute espèce, de tout calibre, et de toute longueur dont la crosse, le chien ou le canon sont essentiellement enrichis d'or ou d'argent ou ciselés artistement. Pour que les armes de luxe, à l'exception des armes antiques, soient admises, le prix de vente ne devra pas être inférieur à 500 fr. par pièce pour les fusils, carabines, et mousquetons, de 200 fr. pour les révolvers, et de 80 fr. pour les pistolets.

Il est entendu que les armes dont l'introduction est autorisée en vertu des autres dispositions de ce Tableau ne sauraient être considérées comme armes de luxe et interdites sous prétexte que leur valeur serait inférieure aux prix fixés. Les personnes qui importent des armes de luxe seront admises à faire passer 100 cartouches chargées pour chaque fusil carabine et mousqueton ; toutefois, le prix des cartouches n'est pas compris dans la valeur fixée pour ces armes.

III. Les fusils, carabines, et pistolets dits Flaubert et les armes semblables de petit calibre, ainsi que ceux à spirale servant pour l'exercice dans la chambre et dans le jardin.

IV. Toute sorte de révolver de chaque calibre que ce soit ou tant que le canon à partir du barillet, celui-ci non compris, ne dépasse pas en longueur 16 centim.

V. Les pistolets rayés et non rayés de quelque calibre que ce soit ; toutefois, en ce qui concerne les pistolets rayés, la longueur du canon ne pourra pas dépasser 15 centim.

VI. Les sabres (en tant que la pesanteur, manche, et fourreau compris ne dépasse pas un kilog. et demi) lames de sabres, épées, et lames d'épées, fleurets d'escrime, couteaux de chasse, poignards, et coups de poings.

N.B.—Un seul pistolet, révolver, ou une paire de pistolets de n'importe quelle sorte, plus 100 cartouches chargées au maximum sont admis pour tout voyageur légitimé de passeport ou de teskéré.

Deuxième Catégorie.

Matériel Importable.

Toutes sortes de parties de fusils, de révolvers, de pistolets, d'armes blanches, et d'autres armes importables comme par exemple crosses, platines, cheminées,

gâchettes, sous-gardes, ressorts, canons, ouvrés ou demi-ouvrés, et de semblables parties d'armes et tout accessoire ou objet nécessaire à l'usage de ces armes.

TROISIÈME CATÉGORIE.

Munitions Importables.

I. Cartouches chargées, soit métalliques soit en carton, avec culot métallique, sans égard au calibre, à raison de 4,500 pièces par an pour chaque boutique d'armurier pour toutes les armes dont l'importation est permis.

II. Douilles de cartouches non chargées, métallique ou en carton avec culot métallique sans égard au calibre et au nombre pour toute arme permise.

III. Toute espèce de capsules d'armes et de douilles à l'exception de celles des armes d'affût interdites ainsi que les cartouches pour les armes Flaubert et autres armes semblables de petit calibre.

IV. Toute espèce de plomb de chasse.

CHAPITRE II.

Toutes les armes dont l'importation est admise seront, après vérification de la Douane, marquées par l'Administration Douanière sans frais ni retard, soit par une ticelle plombée, soit par poinçonnage au choix du propriétaire.

CHAPITRE III.

L'introduction de toutes armes, matériel d'armes et munitions non mentionnées dans le présent Tableau, de toute sorte de poudre, ainsi que de toute les composi-

tions qui ont la même destination ou qui, inventées plus tard, pourraient produire les mêmes effets que la poudre, telles que dynamite, poudre coton, dite fulmi-coton et coton azotique, nitro-glycérine, picrates, et fulminates; des mèches à mines et autres matières fulminantes de ce genre, du salpêtre raffiné et non raffiné, et du chlorate de potasse est interdite. Mais pour ne pas porter préjudice à l'industrie, la Grande Maîtrise de l'Artillerie vendra, sur la demande des personnes qui en ont besoin à Constantinople et dans les provinces, de la poudre de chasse et à carrière et autres matières analogues, et établira des dépôts dans les endroits où il le faut.

Il est entendu que les instruments tranchants destinés à l'agriculture, aux métiers ou à l'usage domestique, continueront à être importés comme par le passé.

Déclaration à adresser par la Sublime Porte à l'Ambassade de France, lors de la Signature du Traité.

La Sublime Porte, fidèle aux principes de tolérance qu'elle a toujours suivis à l'égard de tous les cultes, manifeste son intention de continuer à permettre l'entrée en franchise de droits de douane des objets de dévotion, et de ceux destinés aux services religieux en tant que ces objets par leur nature, leur forme, ou par les emblèmes religieux dont ils sont ornés, peuvent être reconnus comme tels. Il en est de même des objets importés à l'adresse des couvents, des hôpitaux, et des écoles, lesquels continueront, par faveur spéciale, à entrer en Turquie en franchise de droits.

Toutefois, sous le régime du Tarif annexé au Traité de Commerce, la limite de cette dernière franchise est fixée par le Gouvernement Impérial Ottoman à un total de 400 piastres or de droits d'importation par an, et par religieux ou religieuse desservant les couvents, hôpitaux, et écoles, avec la réserve que pour chaque établissement le total annuel ne dépasse pas 4,800 piastres or de droits d'importation.

German Treaty 1890.	French Draft Treaty 1900.	British Draft Treaty.

Projet de Note à adresser par l'Ambassadeur de France à la Sublime Porte, lors de la Signature du Traité.

Au moment de la signature du nouveau Traité de Commerce conclu entre la France et la Turquie, le Soussigné a l'honneur de déclarer que son Gouvernement a adhéré à la rédaction de l'Article Ier dans la conviction que la Sublime Porte n'entend pas interpréter cet Article comme constituant une dérogation aux arrangements existant en dehors des anciens Traités en tant que ces arrangements ne sont pas en contradiction avec les stipulations du présent Traité.

Le Soussigné a l'honneur de prier votre Excellence de vouloir bien lui accuser réception de cette note, et lui donner acte de la manière de voir du Gouvernement Impérial sur cette question.

Veuillez agréer, &c.

Projet de Réponse à la Note de l'Ambassade de France au sujet des Arrangements.

Le Soussigné a l'honneur d'accuser réception de la note que votre Excellence a bien voulu adresser en date de ce jour pour l'informer que son Gouvernement a adhéré à la rédaction de l'Article Ier, dans la conviction que la Sublime Porte n'entend pas interpréter cet Article comme constituant une dérogation aux arrangements existant en dehors des anciens Traités en tant que ces arrangements ne sont pas en contradiction avec les stipulations du présent Traité.

Le Soussigné s'empresse de déclarer en réponse que la Sublime Porte n'entend pas, en effet, interpréter cet Article comme constituant une dérogation à de pareils arrangements, et qu'elle a seulement voulu éviter de leur donner en les mentionnant dans le Traité de Commerce une force, durée, et valeur plus grandes que celles qu'ils pourraient avoir par eux-mêmes d'après l'esprit et les formes dans lesquels ils sont conclus.

En priant votre Excellence de prendre acte de cette déclaration, le Soussigné a l'honneur, &c.

Deuxième Projet de Réponse à la Note de l'Ambassade de France au sujet des Arrangements.

Le Soussigné a l'honneur d'accuser réception de la note que votre Excellence a bien voulu lui adresser en date de ce jour pour l'informer que son Gouvernement a adhéré à la rédaction de l'Article Ier, dans la conviction que la Sublime Porte n'entend pas interpréter cet Article comme constituant une dérogation aux arrangements existant en dehors des anciens Traités, en tant que ces arrangements ne sont pas en contradiction avec les stipulations du présent Traité.

Le Soussigné s'empresse de prendre acte de cette manière de voir du Gouvernement Français.

Le Soussigné saisit, &c.

Protocole.

Les Plénipotentiaires réunis pour signer le Traité de Commerce et de Navigation conclu en date de ce jour entre l'Allemagne et la Turquie, ont énoncé les déclarations suivantes :—

I. En ce qui concerne les Suisses placés sous la Juridiction Consulaire Allemande.

Il est bien entendu que ceux des Suisses résidant dans l'Empire Ottoman qui voudraient se placer sous la juridiction Consulaire Allemande bénéficieront des dispositions du Traité de Commerce conclu en ce jour entre l'Empire Ottoman et l'Empire Allemand.

Protocole Final.

Au moment de procéder à la signature du Traité de Commerce et de Navigation entre la Turquie et la France, les Plénipotentiaires des deux Hautes Parties Contractantes ont déclaré ce qui suit :—

1. Les monnaies d'or Françaises pourront entrer et circuler librement en Turquie. Elles seront reçues en paiement aux bureaux des Douanes Impériales, aux taux fixés, et par le Règlement.

2. Les termes "autorisation spéciale," figurant au second paragraphe de l'Article XVI, ne pourront être interprétés en ce sens que cette autorisation pourrait être accordée à tel ou tel pavillon à l'exclusion d'un autre. Il est donc entendu que cette autorisation ne peut concerner que des transports isolés s'effectuant sans préférence de pavillon dans les circonstances parti-

Déclaration concernant les Certificats d'Origine.

Comme règle générale, les certificats d'origine ne seront pas demandés des importateurs de marchandises Anglaises dans l'Empire Ottoman.

Si dans des cas exceptionnels, ou pour profiter des stipulations du présent Traité, il serait nécessaire de présenter à la Douane Ottomane des certificats d'origine pour les marchandises Anglaises importées, les certificats donnés par le bureau de la Douane du lieu d'exportation, l'autorité locale ou la Chambre de Commerce du lieu d'origine ou d'exportation, seront reconnus comme suffisants. Le visa Consulaire se bornera à constater l'authenticité des signatures des certificats d'origine.

German Treaty 1890.	French Draft Treaty 1900.	British Draft Treaty.

II. En ce qui concerne les Règlements Douaniers.

(ARTICLE XIII.)

Les Règlements Douaniers ayant pour but de régler en Turquie l'application des principes contenus dans le Traité de Commerce conclu en date de ce jour, ainsi que les modifications qu'on pourra y introduire dans l'avenir, seront élaborés par les soins de l'Administration Ottomane et communiqués au Représentant du Gouvernement Allemand avant leur mise en vigueur, afin qu'ils puissent être portés à temps à connaissance du commerce Allemand.

Le Gouvernement Impérial Ottoman modifiera les points de ces Règlements qui seraient en contradiction avec les principes contenus dans le dit Traité, notamment avec les Articles XVIII, XIX. et XX. relatifs aux formalités douanières pour la présentation du manifeste, la déclaration des marchandises, les perquisitions à opérer sur les navires et dans les districts-frontières, les pénalités à appliquer en cas de contrebande, ainsi que les formalités et droits d'entreposage, contradictions qui lui seraient signalées par le Représentant du Gouvernement Allemand.

III. En ce qui concerne les Matières explosibles.

(ARTICLE XVII.)

En prohibant l'importation "d'autres matières explosibles" on n'a pas voulu empêcher le commerce et l'importation en Turquie des matières qui, par leur nature, sont explosibles dans certaines circonstances ou qui pourraient être employées à la fabrication des matières explosibles tels que le soufre, l'éther, le nitrate de soude, mais seulement le commerce et l'importation de matières destinées exclusivement ou du moins essentiellement à faire sauter des mines, ou à des emplois analogues.

En foi de quoi les Plénipotentiaires soussignés ont signé le présent Protocole, qui formera une annexe du Traité, en date de ce jour, et sera considéré comme approuvé et sanctionné par les Gouvernements respectifs, sans autre ratification spéciale, par le seul fait de l'échange des ratifications du Traité auquel il se rapporte.

Fait à Constantinople, le 26 Août, 1890.

VON RADOWITZ. M. SAID.
GILLET.

[1889]

tiellement à faire sauter des mines, ou à des emplois analogues.

3. En prohibant à l'Article XVIII l'importation d'autres matières explosibles, on n'a pas voulu empêcher le commerce et l'importation en Turquie de matières qui, par leur nature, sont explosibles dans certaines circonstances, ou qui pourraient être employées à la fabrication de matières explosibles, tels que le soufre, l'éther, le nitrate de soude, mais seulement le commerce et l'importation de matières destinées exclusivement, ou du moins essentiellement à faire sauter des mines, ou à des emplois analogues.

4. L'Administration Générale des Contributions Indirectes invitera au commencement de chaque année le Consul de France à lui désigner les négociants Français, dont les noms seront inscrits sur la liste des experts, conformément aux dispositions de l'Article XXIII du Traité de Commerce.

5. Les Règlements Douaniers ayant pour de régler l'application des principes contenues dans le Traité de Commerce conclu avec la France en date du , ainsi que les modifications qu'on pourrait y introduire à l'avenir, seront élaborés par les soins de l'Administration Douanière Ottomane, et communiqués au Représentant de la France au moins trois mois avant leur mise en vigueur pour les fins requises.

Le Gouvernement Ottoman modifiera les points de ces Règlements qui seraient en contradiction avec les principes contenus dans le dit Traité, et notamment ceux relatifs aux formalités douanières pour la présentation du manifeste, la déclaration des marchandises, les perquisitions à opérer sur les navires et dans des districts-frontières, les pénalités à appliquer en cas de contrebande, ainsi que les formalités et droits d'entreposage; contradictions qui lui seraient signalées par le Représentant du Gouvernement Français.

6. Il est bien entendu que les citoyens Suisses placés actuellement, ou qui voudraient se placer ultérieurement, sous la juridiction Consulaire Française, bénéficieront des stipulations du présent Traité et de ses annexes.

7. En attendant qu'une Convention spéciale intervienne entre les deux groupes, les Français en Turquie et les sujets Ottomans en France, jouiront, en ce qui concerne les marques de fabrique et de commerce, les dessins industriels et les modèles, de la même protection que les nationaux.

Les ressortissants de l'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes qui désirent jouiront de la protection de leurs marques, de leurs dessins, et de leurs modèles dans le territoire de l'autre Partie, devront effectuer le dépôt de ces marques, dessins, et modèles conformément aux prescriptions en vigueur dans cet État.

8. (Jusqu'à la date à laquelle le Traité entrera en vigueur conformément à son Article, le régime actuel sera maintenu.)

Note.—In lieu of this, French Government desire the following:—

Statu quo continues till Treaty is ratified acoording to Article XXVII.

Even after ratification, specific Tariff not to come in force till accepted by the other Powers.

Underlined portions of Articles III, IV, and IX in abeyance till specific Tariff comes in force.

Il est pourtant bien entendu que même après cette date, ni le Tarif ni une stipulation quelconque du Traité, ne pourront être, sauf le consentement de la France, mis en vigueur vis-à-vis de toute autre nation.

En foi de quoi, les Plénipotentiaires ont signé le présent Protocole et y ont apposé leurs cachets.

Fait à Constantinople, le

Concerning Article XIII, included in Protocole.

Il n'est rien innover en ce qui concerne les conditions dans lesquelles les droits énumérés dans l'Article XIII pourront être établis ou modifiés par le Gouvernement Ottoman.

Déclaration concernant les Règlements Douaniers.

Les Règlements Douaniers ayant pour but de régler l'application des principes contenus dans le Traité de Commerce conclu avec le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume-Uni de la Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande en date du , ainsi que les modifications qu'on pourrait y introduire à l'avenir, seront élaborés par les soins de l'Administration Douanière Ottomane, et communiqués au Représentant de Sa Majesté Britannique au moins trois mois avant leur mise en vigueur pour les fins requises. Le Gouvernement Impérial Ottoman changera les clauses de ces Règlements et des projets de modification qui ne seraient pas conformes aux principes contenus dans le Traité, ou qui seraient en contradiction avec le Traité, clauses qui lui seraient signalées par le Représentant de Sa Majesté Britannique.

No. 136.

*Mr. de Bunsen to the Marquess of Lansdowne.**—(*Received December* 31.)

(No. 172. Commercial.)

Constantinople, December 24, 1900.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 162, Commercial, of the 5th instant, I have the honour to add the following details in regard to the commercial negotiations now in progress between the French Embassy and the Turkish Government.

Mr. Weakley is informed that the proposal to bring certain portions of the new Treaty into immediate operation, which is the distinguishing characteristic of the French draft in its present form, and put forward in Paris in order to escape the difficulty of asking the Chambers to give their assent to an Agreement destined to remain inoperative until all the Powers should have revised their Treaty relations with Turkey. It was thought that the Chamber would reply to such a demand that it would be time enough to consider the new Treaty when the contingency enabling it to take effect had actually occurred, and it was necessary, therefore, to put the Treaty in a form which the Chamber could not refuse to discuss. In this way the idea of the partial enforcement of the Treaty immediately after its ratification is believed to have originated.

I learn that the principal point from which French traders expect to derive advantage, if the French draft is carried, is that of the establishment of bonded warehouses, or, failing these, the adaptation of private premises to the purposes of bonded warehouses, as stipulated in Article XII.

On this point, however, great reluctance is displayed by the Turkish negotiators to consent to the French demands. They hold, as Mr. Weakley is given to understand, that bonded warehouses constitute the best *quid pro quo* which Turkey has to offer to all the non-Treaty Powers in exchange to the specific Tariff and other concessions which the latter are expected to make to Turkey. If bonded warehouses are conceded to French merchants, others will equally claim the benefit of them under most-favoured-nation treatment, without waiting to make a new Treaty. The leverage now possessed by Turkey would thus be lost.

Apart from this consideration it seems very doubtful whether Turkey, with her present resources and Customs organization, would be in a position to carry out the terms of the French Article XII, or of the corresponding Article in the British draft. Another point to which great importance is attached by France is the recasting of the Règlement Douanier in a form which foreign commerce and shipping could accept. To this demand the Turkish negotiators have replied that it will be impossible for them to discuss the Règlement Douanier till all the new Treaties have been concluded and the Sublime Porte is thus enabled to apply to the Règlement Douanier the principles laid down in them.

In view of the attitude assumed by the Sublime Porte on these points, I understand the French negotiators are not very sanguine of success.

I have, &c.

(Signed) M. DE BUNSEN.

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* Copy to Board of Trade, January 9, 1901.